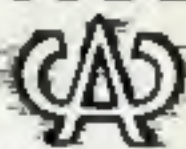




A FANTASTIC FIRST!

THE **CHALLS** MEET
THE **DOOM PATROL!**

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE



AUTHORITY

MAR.

NO. 48

12¢

CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN

UNBELIEVABLE!

The **DOOM** PATROL

BECOMES A GRIM
BURIAL SQUAD

in

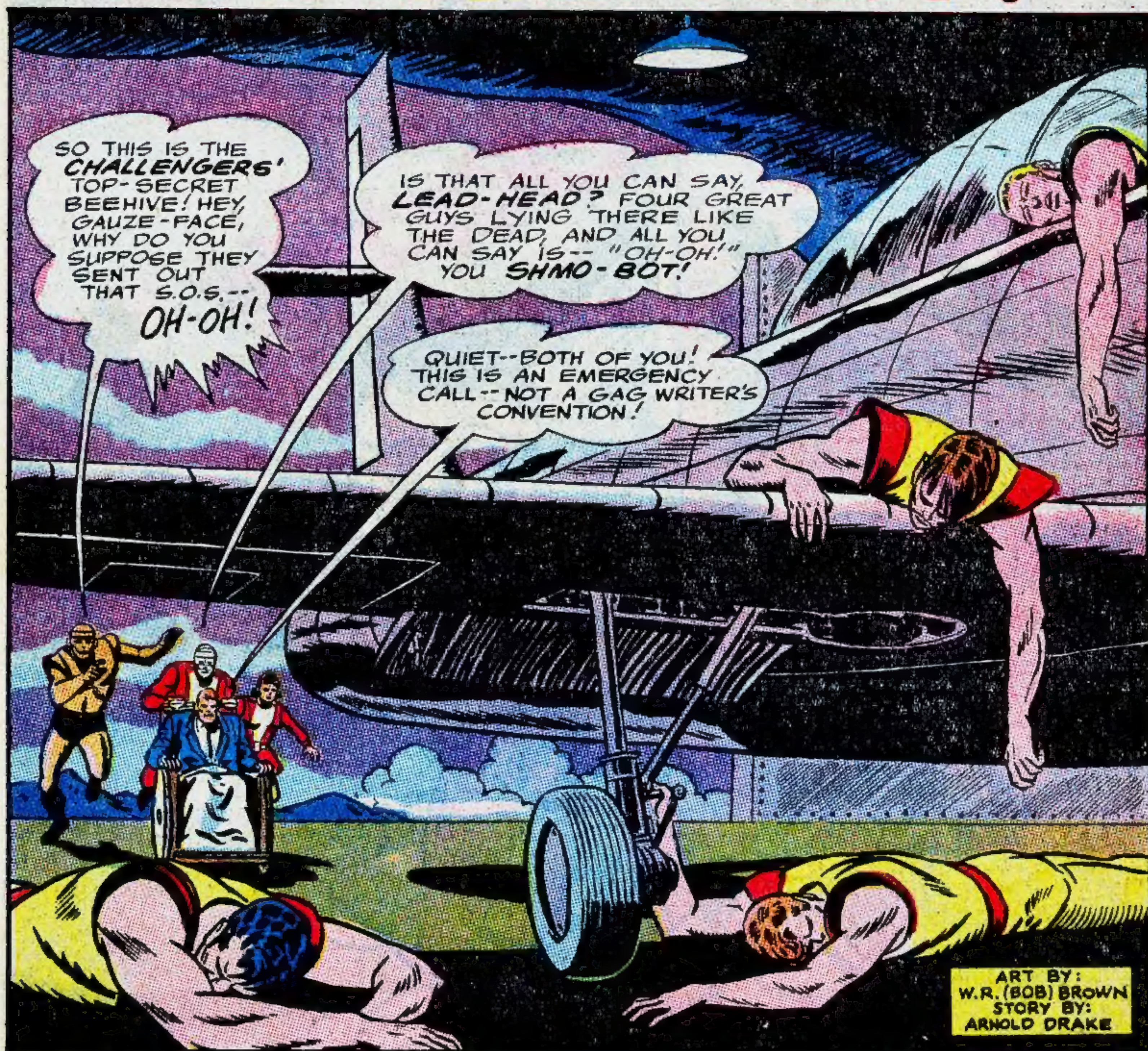
**"TWILIGHT
OF THE
CHALLENGERS
!"**



CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN

WHAT'S COMIN' OFF HERE? FOUR FRENZIED FREAKS INVADING THE CHALLENGERS' MOUNTAIN FORTRESS? THAT WILD, WEIRD AND WHACKY QUARTET, THE DOOM PATROL, MUSCLING IN ON ACE, PROF, RED AND ROCKY? HERE'S A YARN THAT STARTS AT THE HIGHEST PEAK OF EXCITEMENT-- AND JUST KEEPS GOING UP! SO STOP WASTING TIME ON THIS BLURB-- AND JUMP INTO...

TWILIGHT OF THE CHALLENGERS



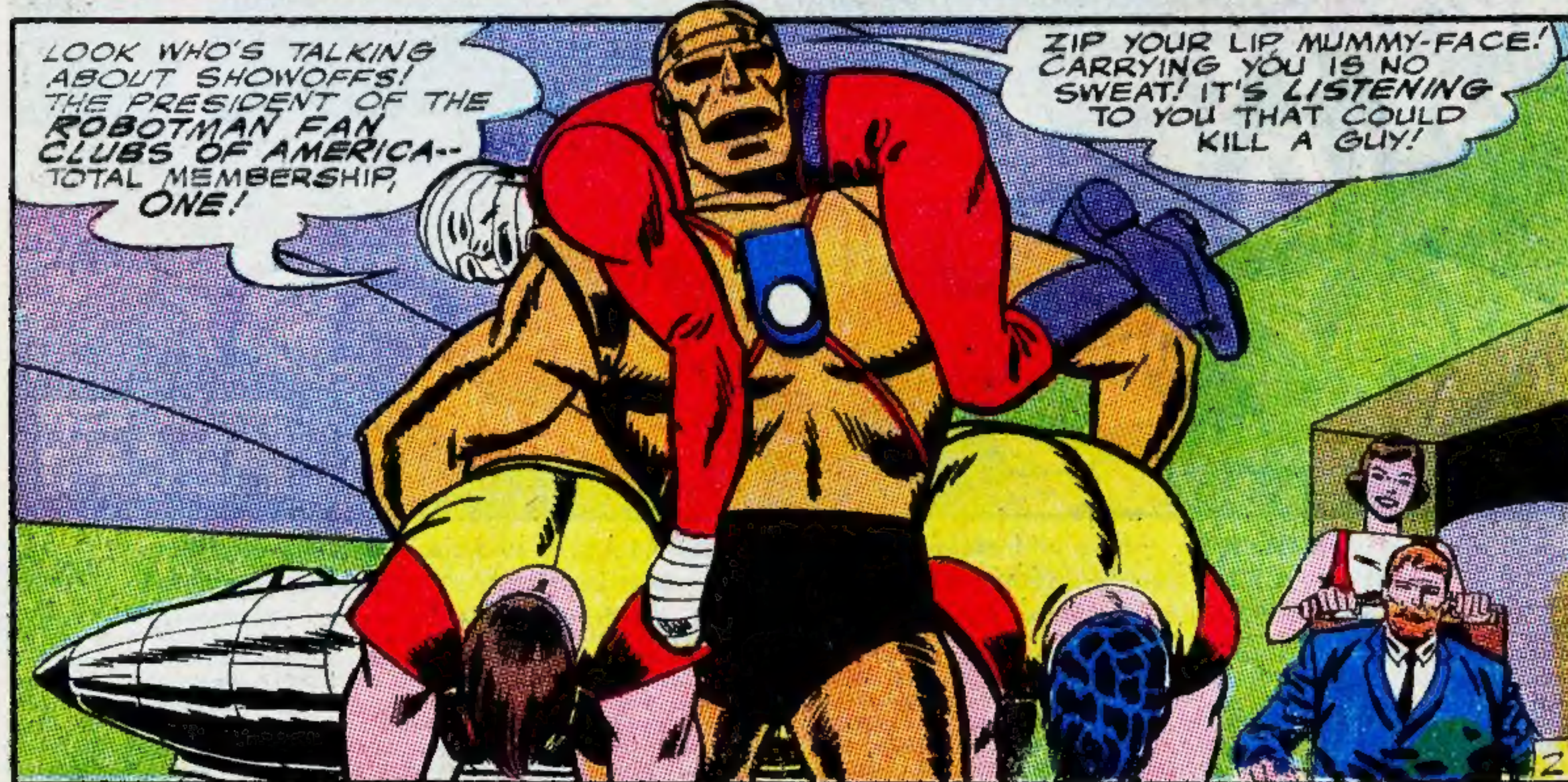
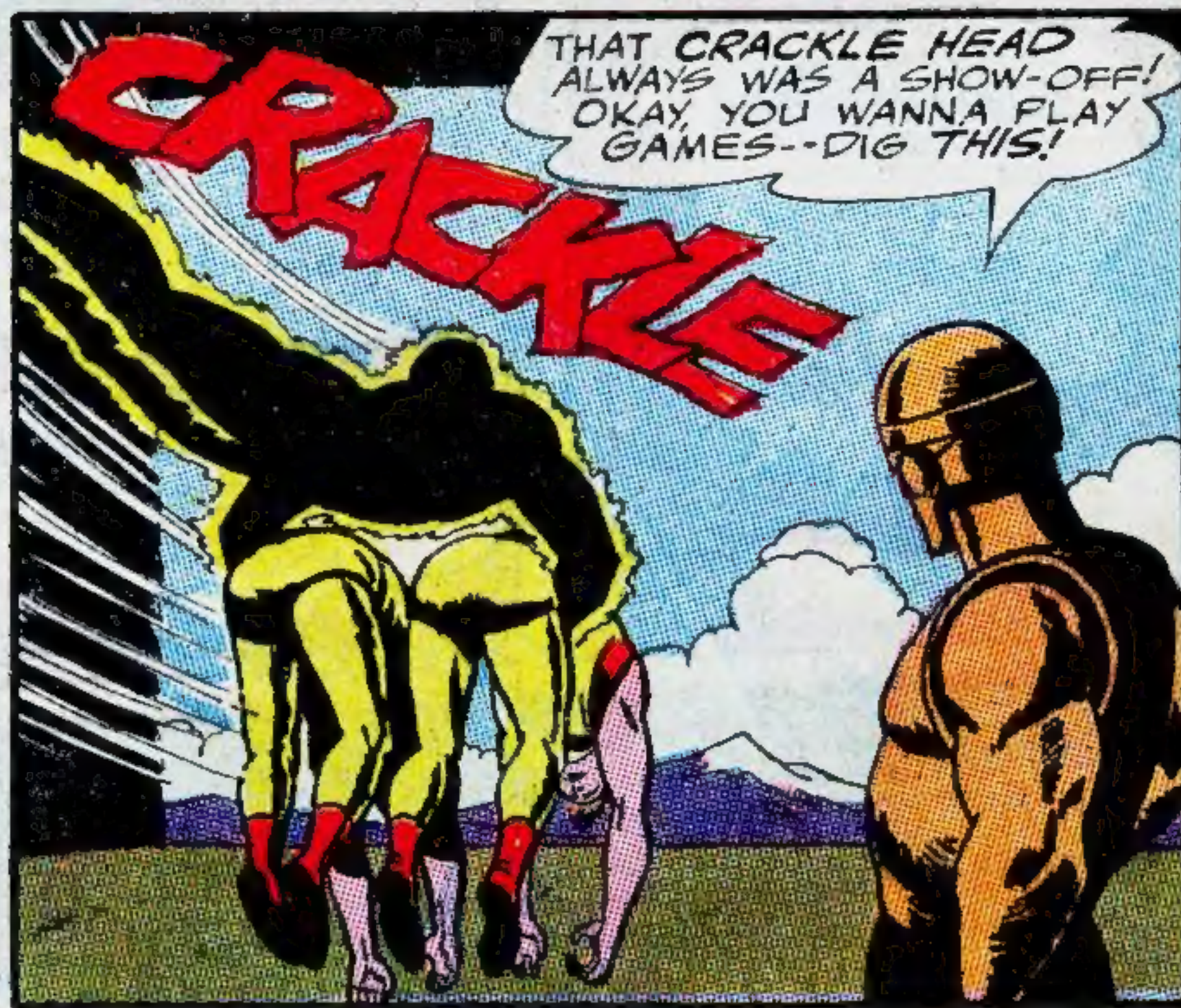
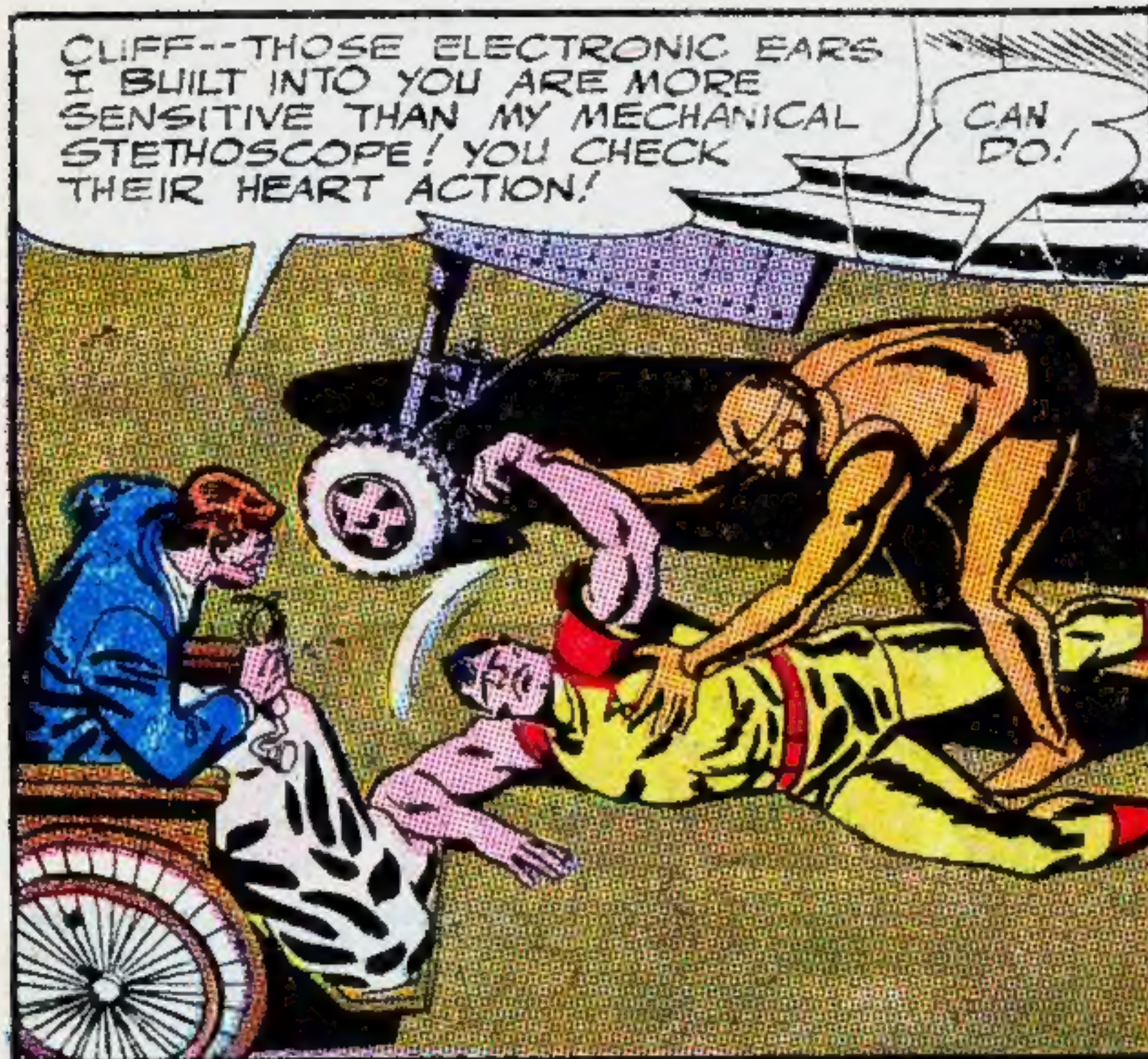
ART BY:
W.R. (BOB) BROWN
STORY BY:
ARNOLD DRAKE

"This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition, nor affixed to, nor as part of any advertising, literary or pictorial matter whatsoever."

Printed
in
U.S.A.

CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN, No. 48, Feb.-March, 1966. Published bi-monthly by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd and Dickey Sts., SPARTA, ILL. 62286. Editorial, Executive offices and Subscriptions, 575 LEXINGTON AVE., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022. Murray Boltinoff, Editor. 2nd CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT SPARTA, ILL. under the act of Mar. 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U.S., 70c including postage. Foreign, \$1.40 in American funds. Canada, 85c in

American funds. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 205 East 42nd St., New York, N.Y. 10017. Copyright © National Periodical Publications, Inc., 1965. All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred.



SHORTLY, AT
DOOM PATROL
HEADQUARTERS...

THE "LIFE CABINET"
WILL SLOW THE PROGRESS
OF WHATEVER IS KILLING
THEM! LOW TEMPERATURE
AND PRESSURE PLUS A
HIGH-OXYGEN ATMOSPHERE
WILL REDUCE ALL STRAIN
ON THE ORGANS UNTIL
WE CAN FIND OUT WHAT
WE'RE FIGHTING!

BUT YOUR EXAMINATIONS WERE
COMPLETELY NEGATIVE! HOW ARE
YOU GOING TO DIAGNOSE THIS
THING?

THE
CHALLENGERS
WILL DO
THAT FOR
ME!

WHAT?

YES--I BELIEVE I
CAN REACH THEM
EVEN IN THEIR UN-
CONSCIOUS STATE!
IT'S AN EXPERIMENTAL
PROCESS I RECENTLY
DEVELOPED! LOW-
LEVEL RADIO ENERGY
WILL CARRY MY MESSAGE
STRAIGHT TO THEIR
BRAIN CENTERS!
WATCH!

ACE MORGAN--CAN YOU
"HEAR" ME? THIS IS DR. NILES
CAULDER OF THE DOOM
PATROL-- THE MAN THEY
CALL "THE CHIEF!" DO YOU
READ ME, ACE MORGAN?

A LONG, TENSE MOMENT OF SILENCE
BLANKETS THE ROOM, AND THEN AN
EERIE, ONLY HALF-HUMAN VOICE
CRACKLES THROUGH THE RADIO
RECEIVER...

EEEEEE! I--I--HEAR
YOU CHIEF! WHERE--
WHERE AM I? EEEE!
IT IS C-C-COLD-- AND
D-D-DARK AND--
AM I--DEAD?

MAN, YOU'RE AS CLOSE AS YOU
CAN GET TO IT-- AND THE
"DIGGER MAN" WILL BE HERE
SOON, UNLESS YOU CAN TELL
US WHAT HAPPENED
TO YOU GUYS!

"I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING!
 "EEEE! WE HAD BEEN
 APPOINTED KEEPERS OF
 FOUR INCREDIBLE
 CRIMINALS-- CALLED THE
 CHALLENGER-HATERS!
 "EEEE!"



"A DESERTED VOLCANIC ISLAND BECAME THEIR
 PRISON, AND WE MADE MONTHLY SUPPLY TRIPS..."

"MORNING, KIDDIES!
 WE'VE BROUGHT YOU
 SOME MORE GOODIES!
 DOG BISCUITS! RAW
 FISH! WARM APRICOT
 JUICE-- AND
 SIMILAR DELIGHTS!"

BLECHHHH!



"FIRST THERE WAS KRA,
 AN ALIEN ROBOT WHOSE
 ELECTRONIC POWER
 COULD BE CURBED
 ONLY THROUGH CON-
 TINUOUS WATER CON-
 TACT..."

"THEN, VOLCANO MAN, A
 TOWER OF LIVING LAVA
 TAMED BY A THERMAL
 CONTROL BELT..."

"DRABNY, AN ORDINARY
 MAN-- WHEN HE DIDN'T
 HAVE THE DEVICE THAT
 GAVE PHYSICAL POWER
 TO HIS THOUGHT WAVES..."



YOU
 CHALLENGERS
 ARE ABOUT
 AS FUNNY
 AS A
 BLOWN
 GASKET!

MAN, HE'S
 HARMLESS--
 BUT HE
 STILL
 SOUNDS
 LIKE A
 BROKEN
 RADIATOR!



IF I HAD MY TELE-
 KINETIC HELMET, I'D
 "THINK" A TEN-FOOT
 HOLE AND KICK ALL
 OF YOU INTO IT WITH
 A TEN-FOOT FOOT!



"AND THE ULTIMATE RAT FINK,
 MULTI-MAN, WHOM WE
 STRIPPED OF HIS CHEMICAL
 ABILITY TO CHANGE INTO
 ANY LIVING FORM!"

LAUGH, TODAY
 CHUMP-ENGERS!
 BUT TOMORROW
 WILL BE
 OURS!



ADIOS, YOU SHINING
 SOULS! OKAY, MEN,
 LET'S -- HEY!
 WHERE'D THAT
 RABBIT COME
 FROM?

I FOUND HIM ON THE
 BEACH WHEN WE
 LANDED! CUTE LITTLE
 BUNNY, EH?

CUTE--
 MY
 FOOT!



CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.



THERE'S NOTHING ALIVE ON THIS STONE ISLAND EXCEPT THE PRISONERS! SO I DON'T LIKE THE IDEA OF THAT THING!

AWW, DON'T GO INTO A FLAP PROF! WHAT'S A LITTLE RABBIT GONNA DO TO YOU?

I THINK PROF'S RIGHT! ROCKY, GET RID OF PETER COTTONTAIL!



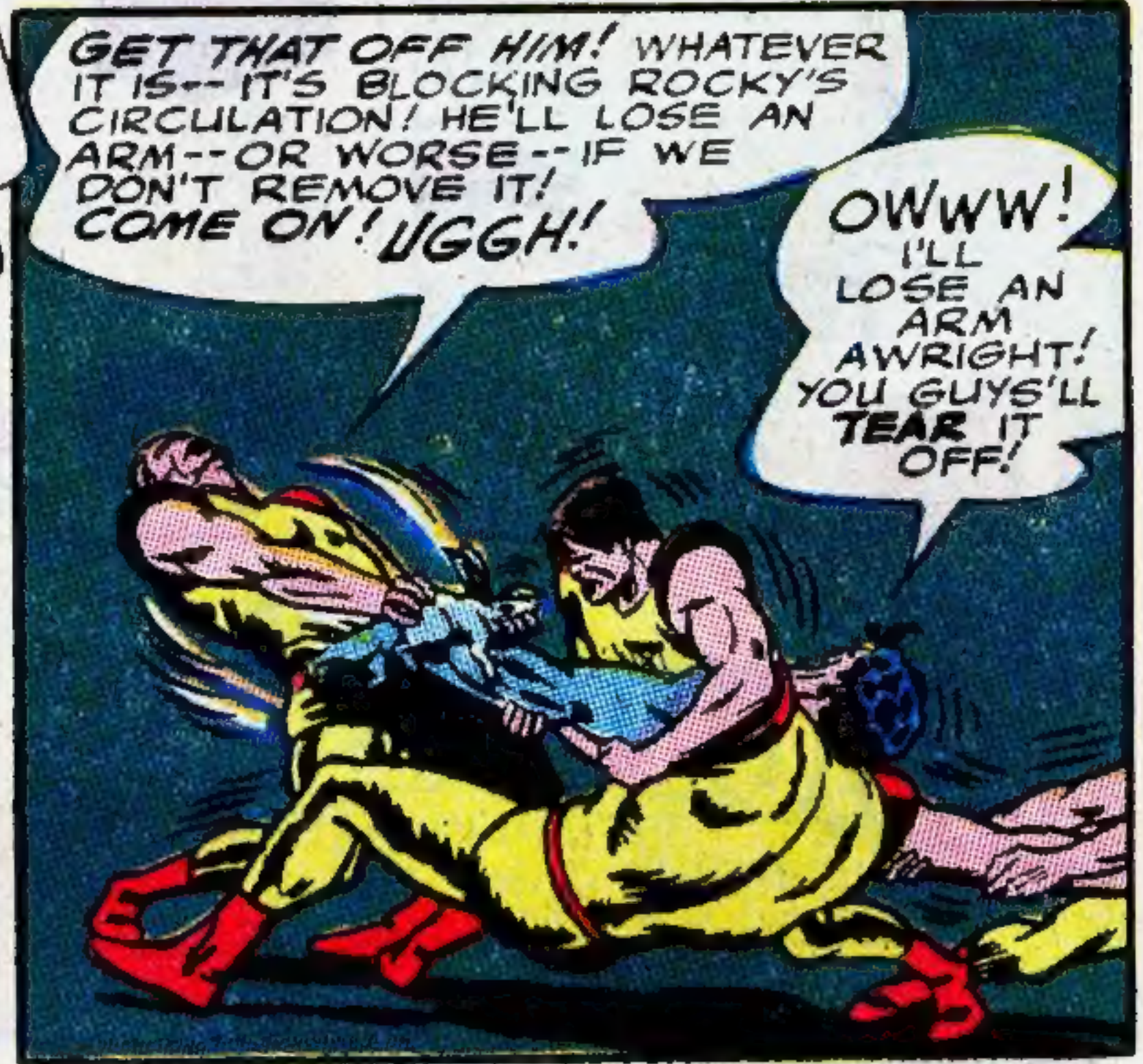
OKAY, ANIMAL-HATERS, I'LL DO IT! COME ON, BUNNY, GET GOING-- HMMM! GET OFF, NOW! YOU HEAR?

WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM? YOU CAN'T LIFT A RABBIT?



YOU THINK IT'S A JOKE? THIS THING'S GOT A GRIP LIKE A BOA CONSTRICTOR!

IF "MUSCLES" CAN'T LIFT IT, THERE MUST BE SOMETHING--HEY! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOUR ARM--? IT'S TURNING BLUE!

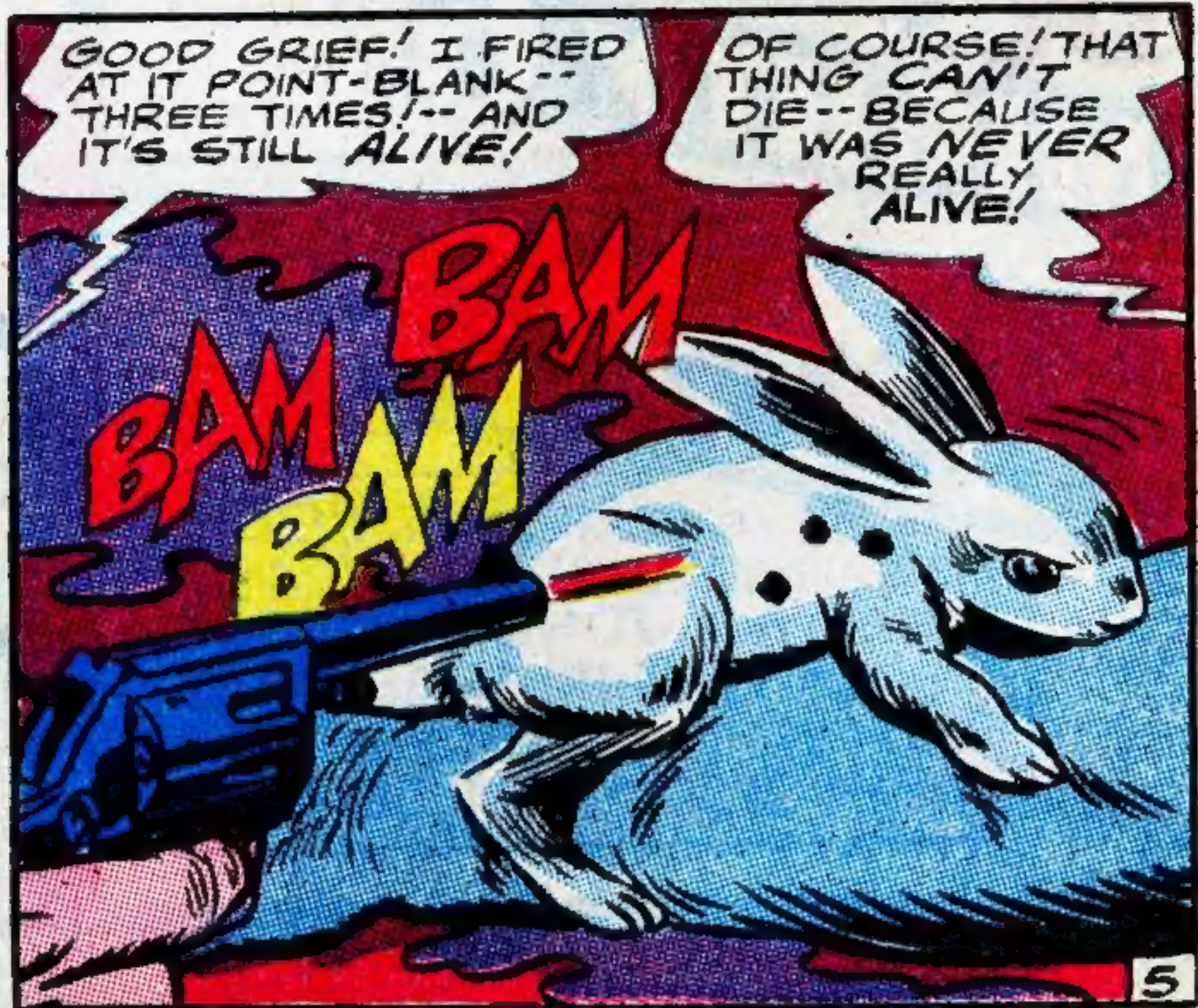


GET THAT OFF HIM! WHATEVER IT IS--IT'S BLOCKING ROCKY'S CIRCULATION! HE'LL LOSE AN ARM--OR WORSE--IF WE DON'T REMOVE IT! COME ON! UGGH!

OWWW! I'LL LOSE AN ARM AWRIGHT! YOU GUYS'LL TEAR IT OFF!



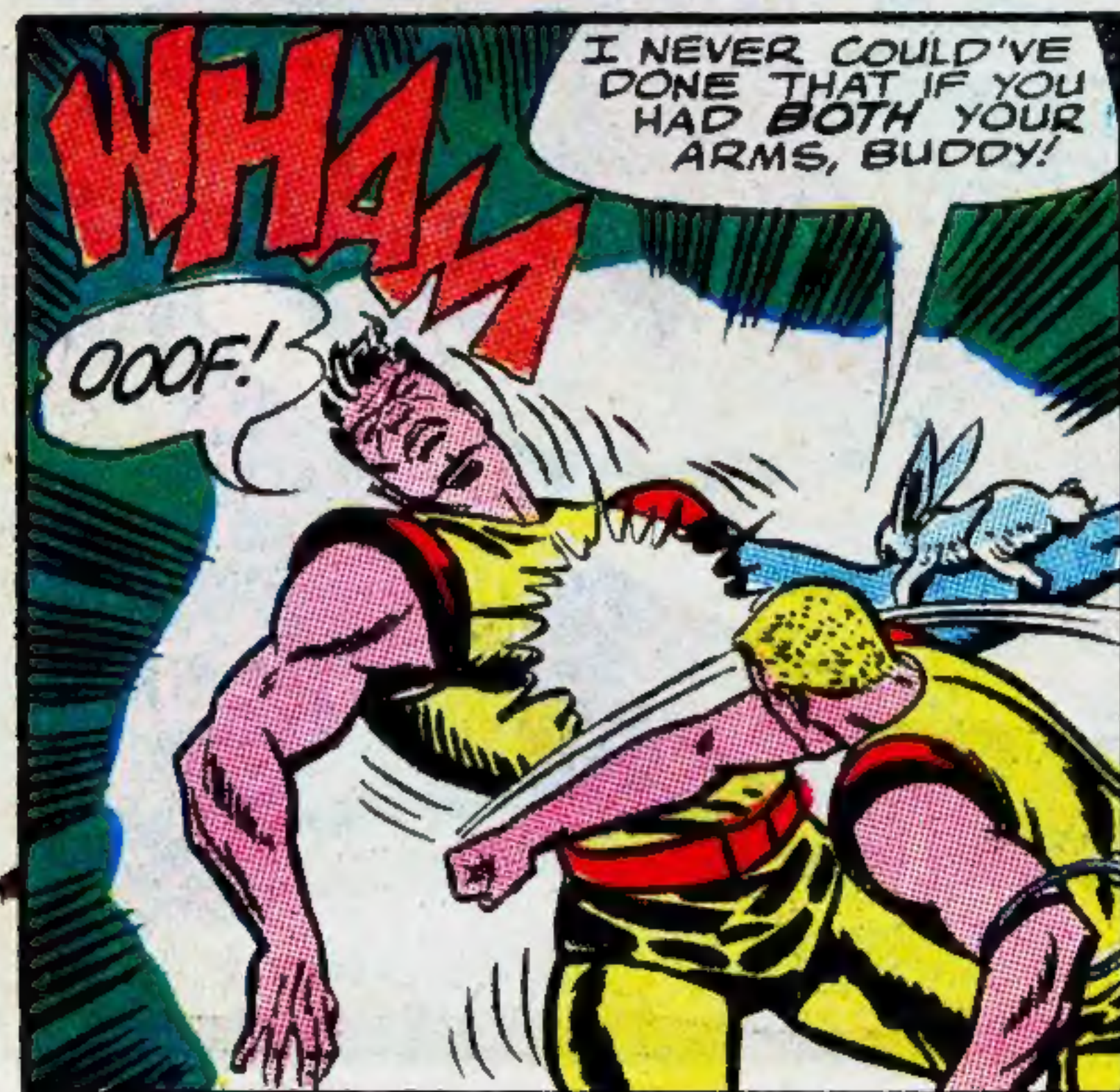
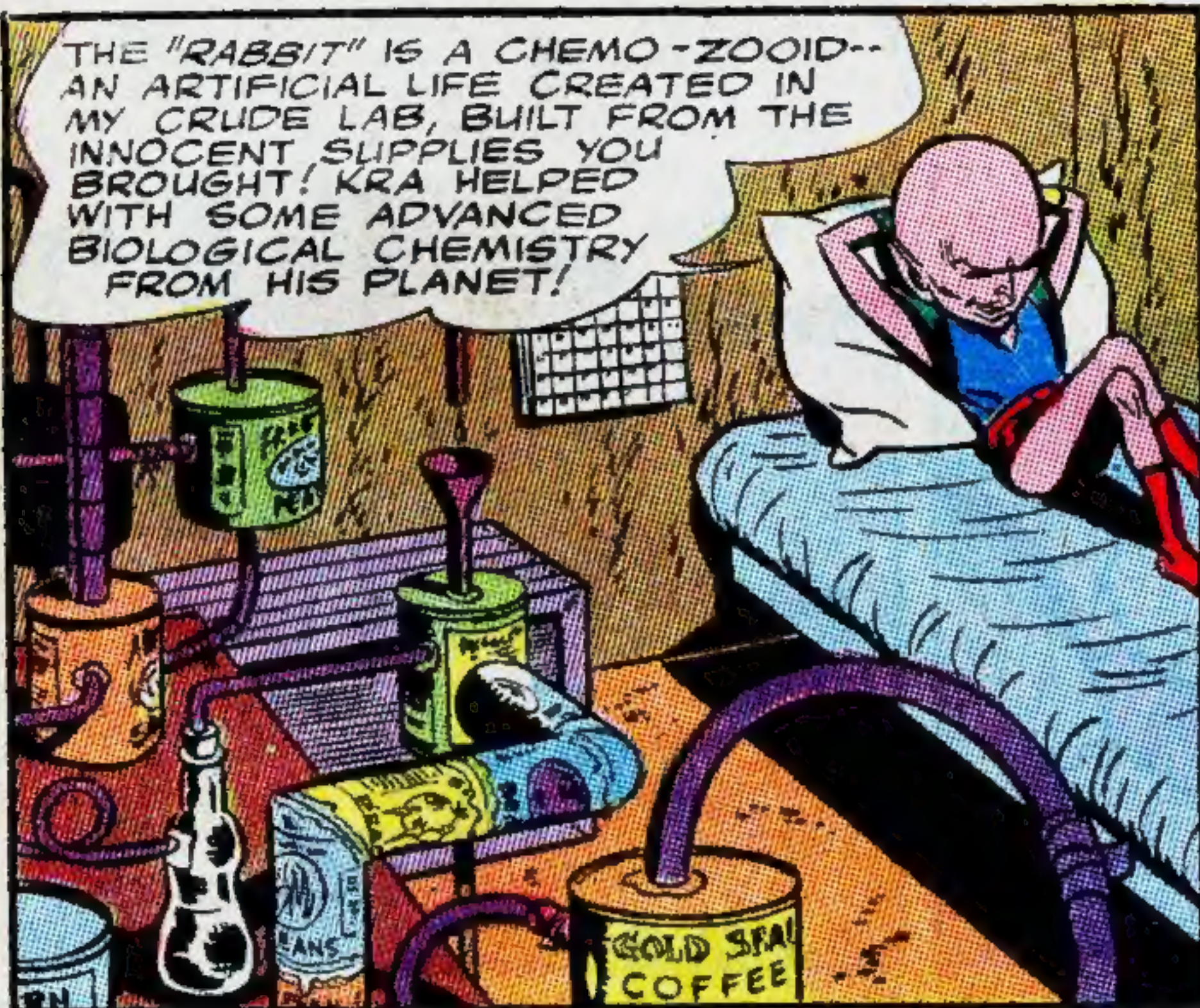
THIS IS THE WILDEST! A RABBIT KILLING A MAN-MOUNTAIN LIKE ROCKY! ONLY ONE THING TO DO! SHOOT THAT CRAZY ANIMAL! I'LL GET A GUN FROM THE PLANE!

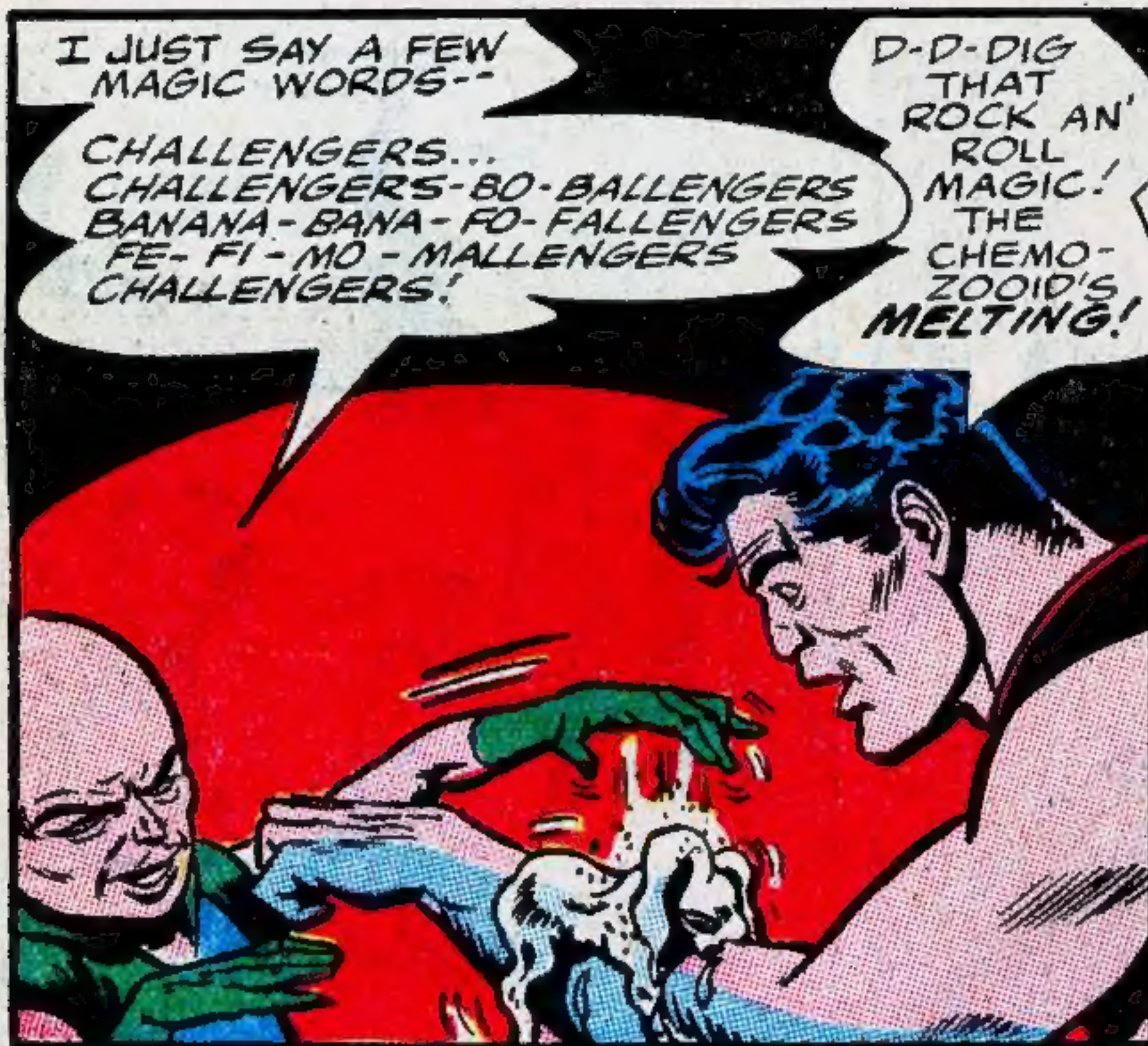


GOOD GRIEF! I FIRED AT IT POINT-BLANK--THREE TIMES!--AND IT'S STILL ALIVE!

OF COURSE! THAT THING CAN'T DIE--BECAUSE IT WAS NEVER REALLY ALIVE!

BAM BAM BAM





I JUST SAY A FEW
MAGIC WORDS--

CHALLENGERS...
CHALLENGERS-BO-BALLENGERS
BANANA-BANA-FO-FALLENGERS
FE-FI-MO-MALLENGERS
CHALLENGERS!

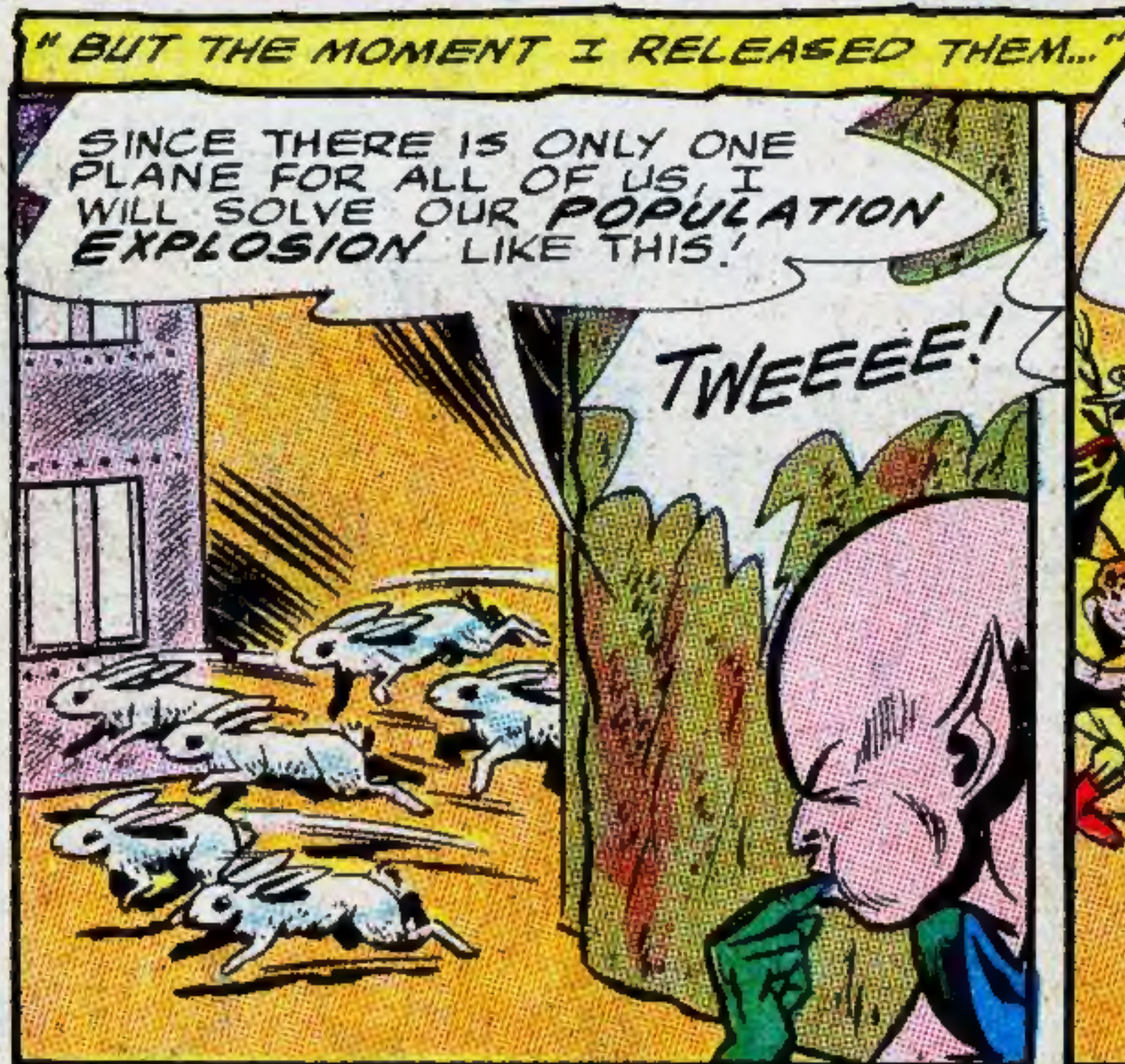
D-D-DIG
THAT
ROCK AN'
ROLL
MAGIC!
THE
CHEMO-
ZOOID'S
MELTING!



OKAY--NOW
WE KEEP
OUR HALF
OF THE
BARGAIN BY
RELEASING
THE
OTHERS!

ARE YOU NUTS? YOU
DON'T HAVE TO
KEEP A PROMISE
TO A HUMAN
SKUNK!

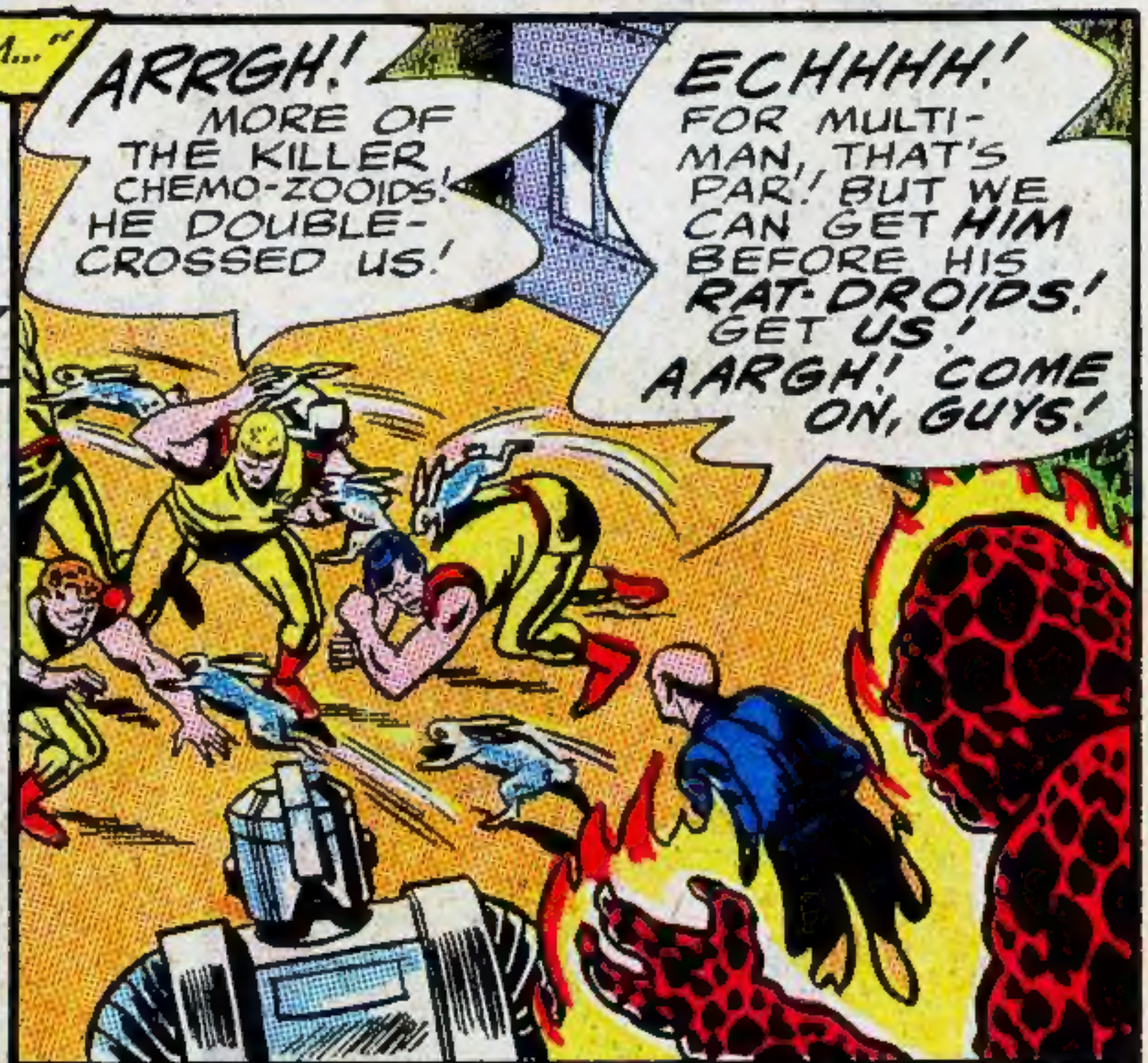
IF WE
DON'T, RED--
WE'RE NO
BETTER
THAN THEY
ARE!



"BUT THE MOMENT I RELEASED THEM..."

SINCE THERE IS ONLY ONE
PLANE FOR ALL OF US, I
WILL SOLVE OUR POPULATION
EXPLOSION LIKE THIS!

TWEEEEE!



ARRGH!

MORE OF
THE KILLER
CHEMO-ZOOIDS!
HE DOUBLE-
CROSSED US!

ECHHHH!

FOR MULTI-
MAN, THAT'S
PAR! BUT WE
CAN GET HIM
BEFORE HIS
RAT-DROIDS!
GET US!
AARGH! COME
ON, GUYS!

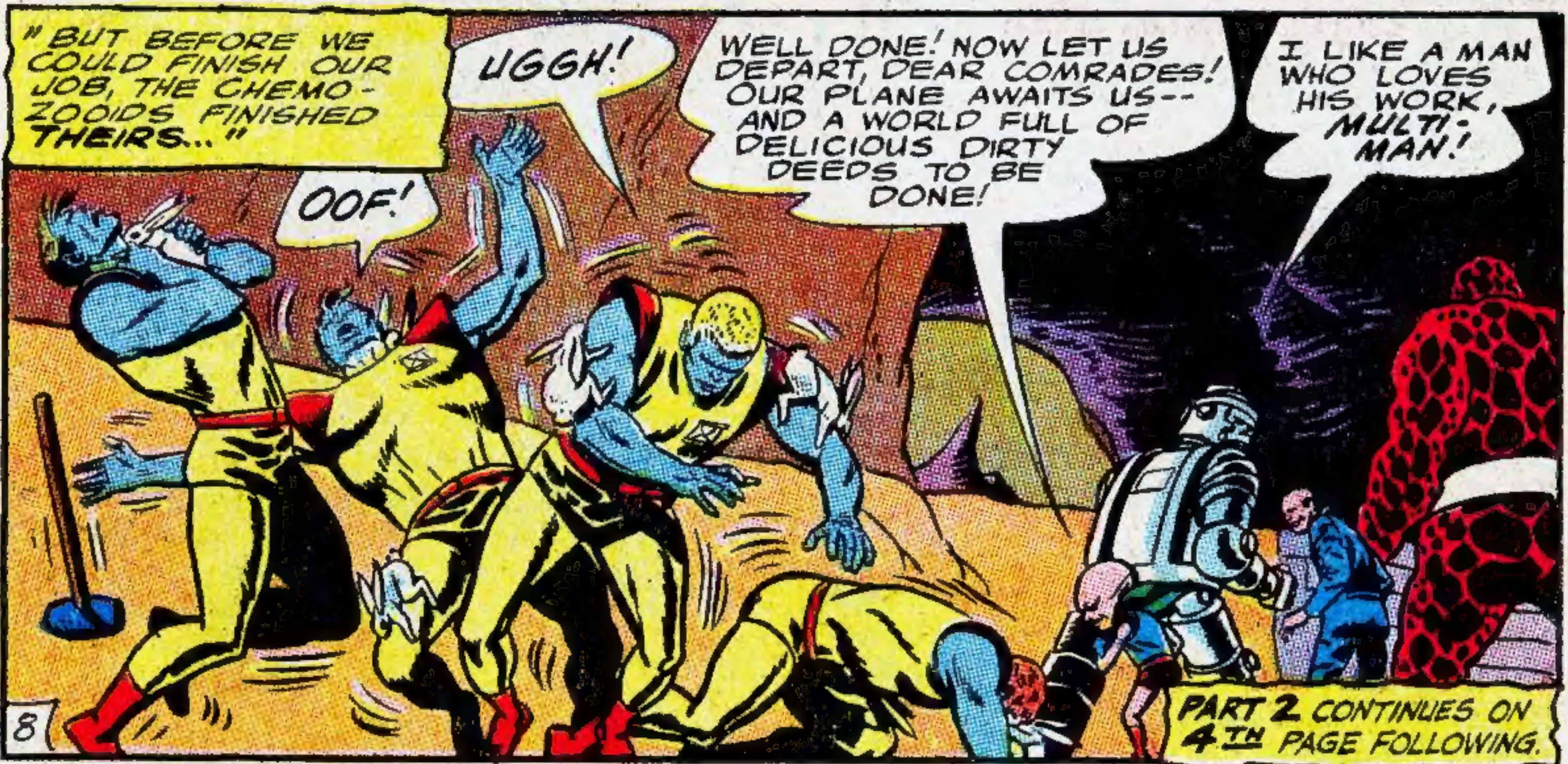
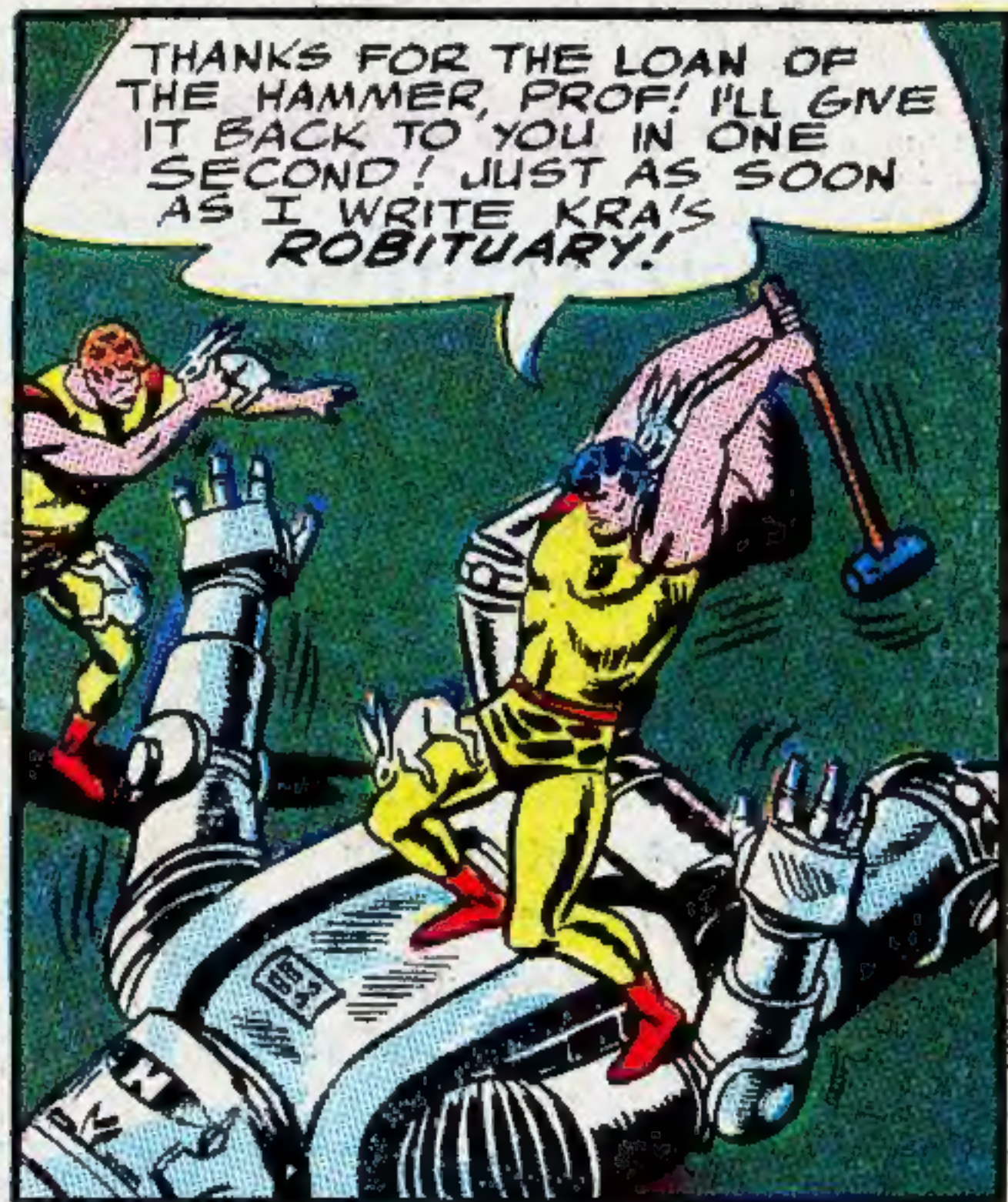
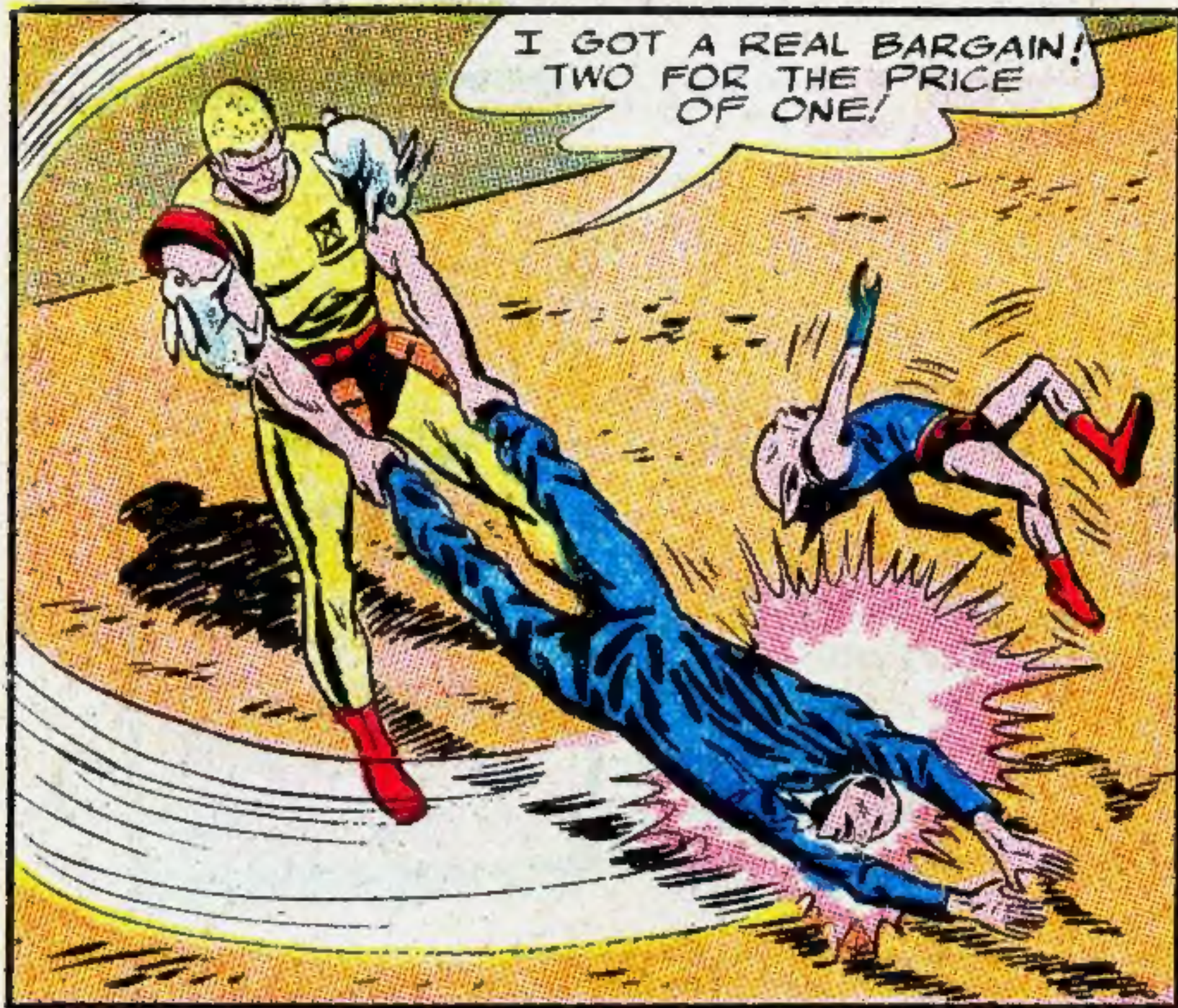


YOU'RE READY
FOR THE SCRAP
HEAP! ONE
DOWN--AND
THREE TO
GO!



SSSS
ARGH!

CORRECTION! TWO DOWN! I
JUST TURNED OFF THE RADIATOR!



WARNING!

DO NOT SKIP PAST THIS AD--OR YOU WILL MISS OUT ON THE GREATEST COMIC BOOK **SPECTRE-ACULAR** IN OVER 20 YEARS!

THE **SPECTRE** IS COMING--
CLOSER--CLOSER--CLOSER--
He's **HERE!**

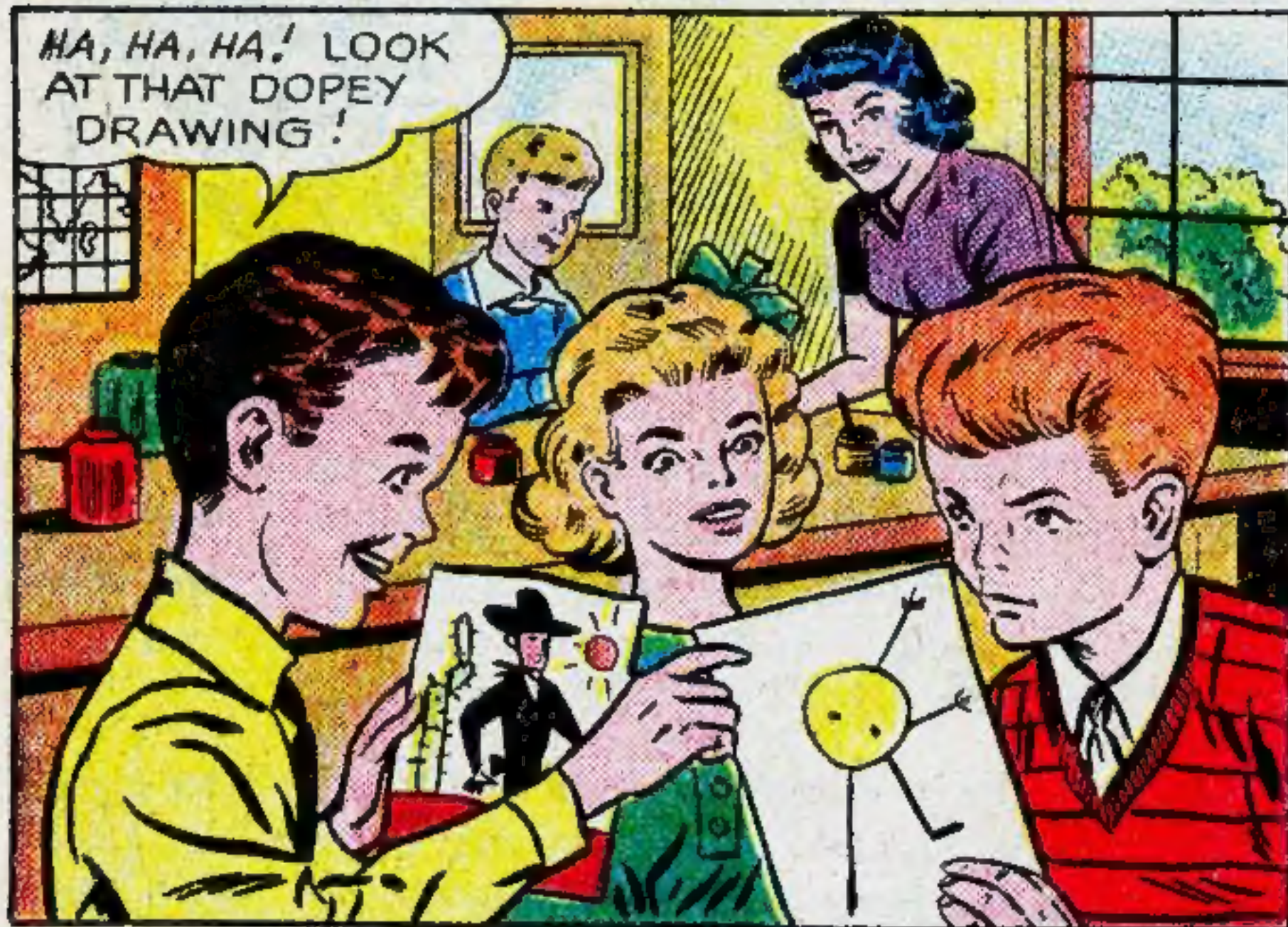


THE MOST FABULOUS HERO OF THE **GOLDEN AGE OF COMICS!**
DON'T YOU **DARE** MISS THIS ISSUE!



ON SALE NOV. 25th

The INVISIBLE HANDICAP!



HA, HA, HA! LOOK AT THAT DOPEY DRAWING!



HEY, WHAT'S GOT INTO TOD?

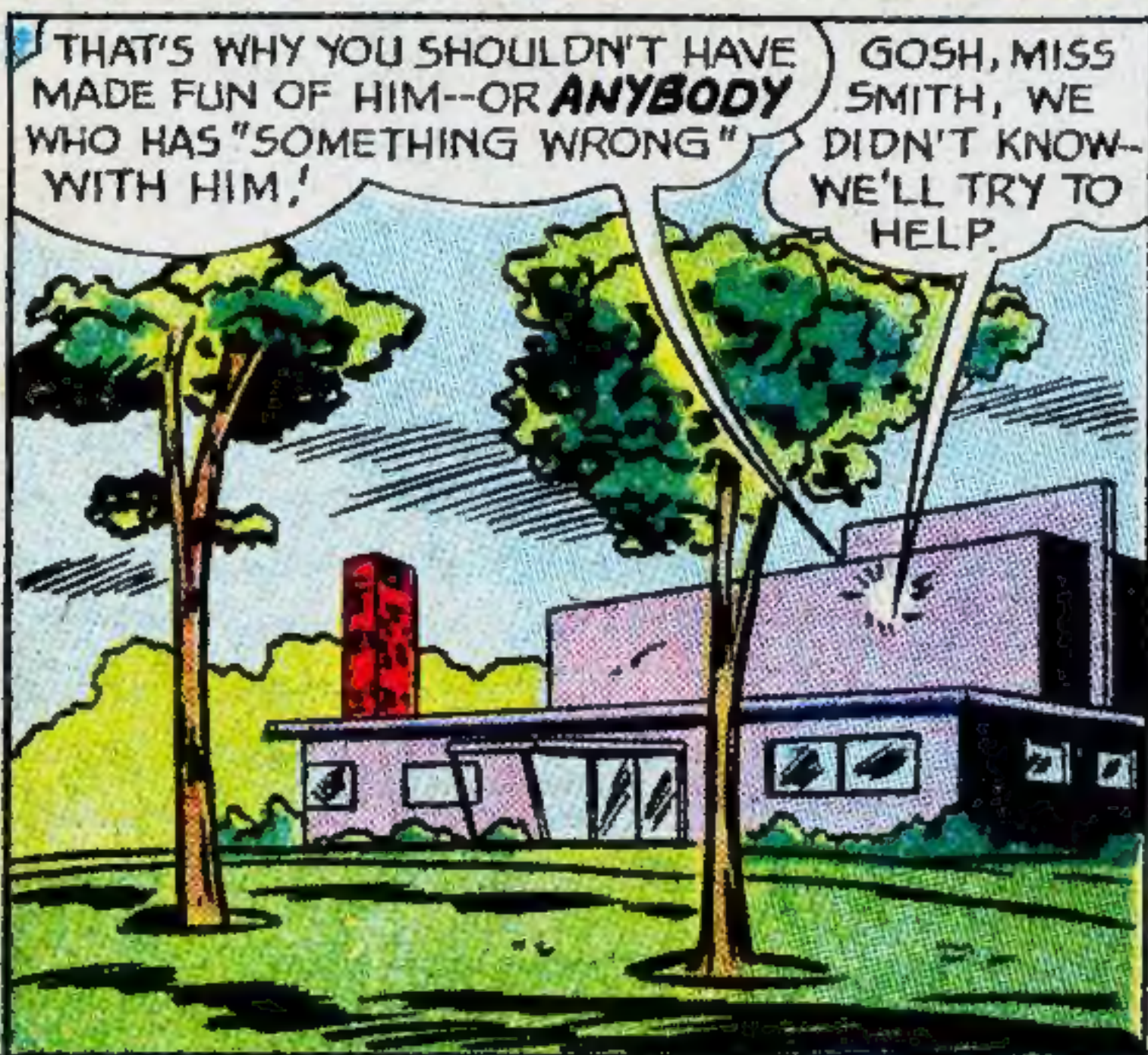
HE'S A REAL WEIRDO--SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH HIM!



YOU'RE RIGHT--SOMETHING *IS* WRONG WITH HIM. YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ACTED THAT WAY IF HE WERE BLIND OR LAME...SOMETHING YOU COULD SEE. BUT THIS NEW BOY HAPPENS TO HAVE A HANDICAP THAT'S **INVISIBLE**--DAMAGE TO PART OF THE BRAIN...



THERE ARE MORE LIKE HIM THAN MOST PEOPLE REALIZE... BECAUSE OF FAULTY PERCEPTION, HE DOESN'T SEE OR DO THINGS QUITE AS YOU DO, AND WE'RE TRYING TO HELP HIM ADJUST...



THAT'S WHY YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE MADE FUN OF HIM--OR **ANYBODY** WHO HAS "SOMETHING WRONG" WITH HIM!

GOSH, MISS SMITH, WE DIDN'T KNOW--WE'LL TRY TO HELP.

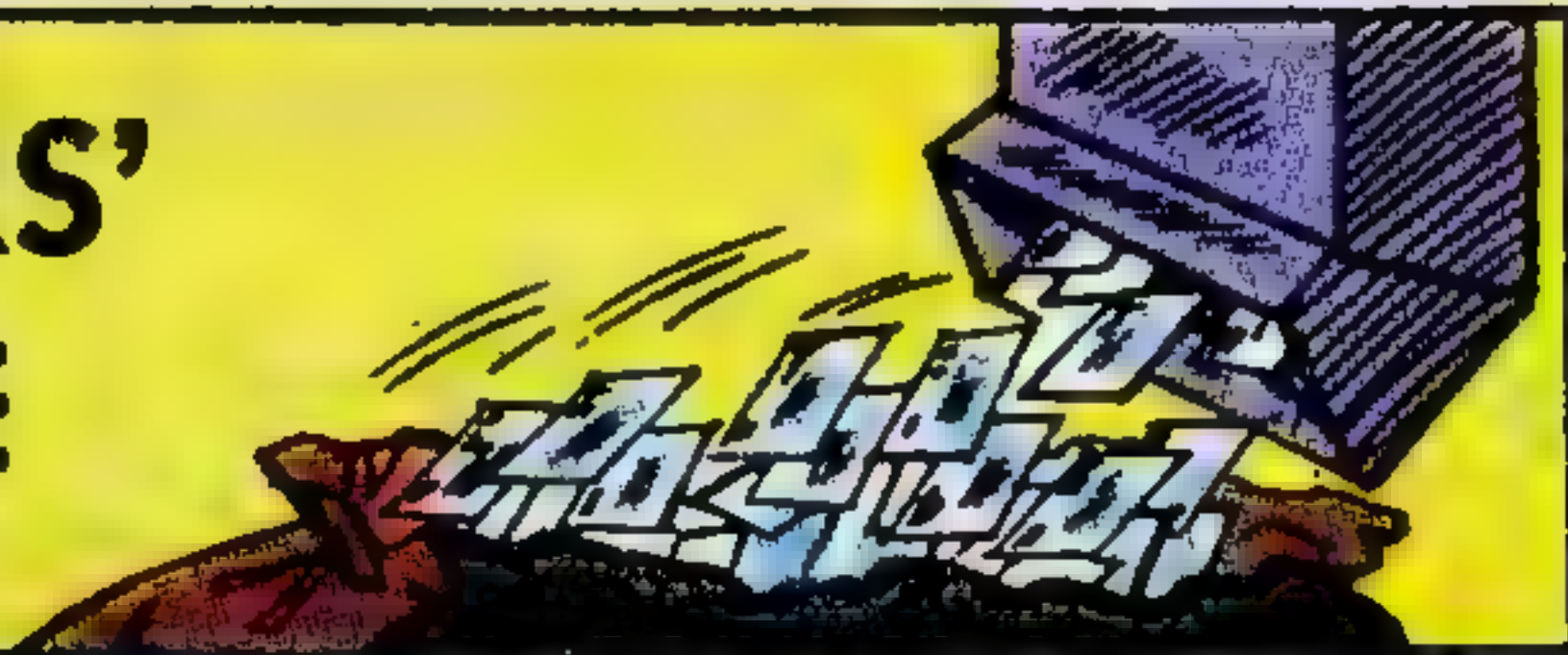


SEVERAL MONTHS LATER...

GEE, TOD, THAT'S GREAT! PRETTY SOON, **YOU'RE** GOING TO HAVE TO HELP **US**!

CHALLENGERS'

MAIL CHUTE



Dear Editor: Would appreciate it if you mentioned the following fanzines in *Mail Chute* because it's primarily a fans' page, and what better way for us to get together than via them. So here they are, with the names of the editors, including my own:

"Alter-Ego," Roy Thomas, 307 Greenferry Road, Jackson, Mo.; "Star-Studded Comics," Larry Herndon, 1830 Highland, Carrollton, Tex.; "Mask & Cape," Steve Perrin, Box 357, Summit City, Calif.; "Countdown," Jim Rossow, 906 Beale, South Bend, Ind. —Lon Mitchell, editor, "Super-Theater," 4340 Berwick, Toledo, O.

Thanks loads for the info, Lon! We're sure a lot of fans appreciate the means to communicate and get the lowdown on the highlights of the comics. By the way, CHALLENGER Fan Clubs are still popping up. Flashes about newly organized groups from Louis Morra, 145 N. Washington St., N. Attleborough, Mass.; Chuck Trundle & Steve Wagner, 520 Myrtlewood Lane, Wheaton, Ill.; Mark Capozzoli, Box 29, Marshfield, Mass.

* * *

Dear Editor: "Sinister Schemes of the Gargoyle" in No. 46 was so good, I had to sit down at once and subscribe so I wouldn't miss a single issue. Of course, we all want to see more of the Gargoyle. After all, he's not such a bad guy. Anyone who helps a blind person like he did can't be all evil. I hope we see him soon. —Mike Roddy, Knoxville, Tenn.

Judging by the letters that poured in about that ghastly, grinning gnome, he's just about the greatest that ever hit the CHALLS! And Ronnie Sexton, Gresham, Ore., Scott Colebank, Prairie Village, Kan., Norman Leeder, Brookline, Mass., Richard Walls, Des Moines, Ia., and Garcie Barnett, Cowen, Wis., thought the-villain-you-love-to-hate was the most. Bill Finger did a masterful writing job, and Bob Brown caught the wild quality. In the face of such a response, we'll just have to bring back this man-monster! For the record, it was Bill who wrote "Curse of the Evil Eye" (No. 44) not Arnold Drake, as noted in last issue's Mail Chute Chit-Chat.

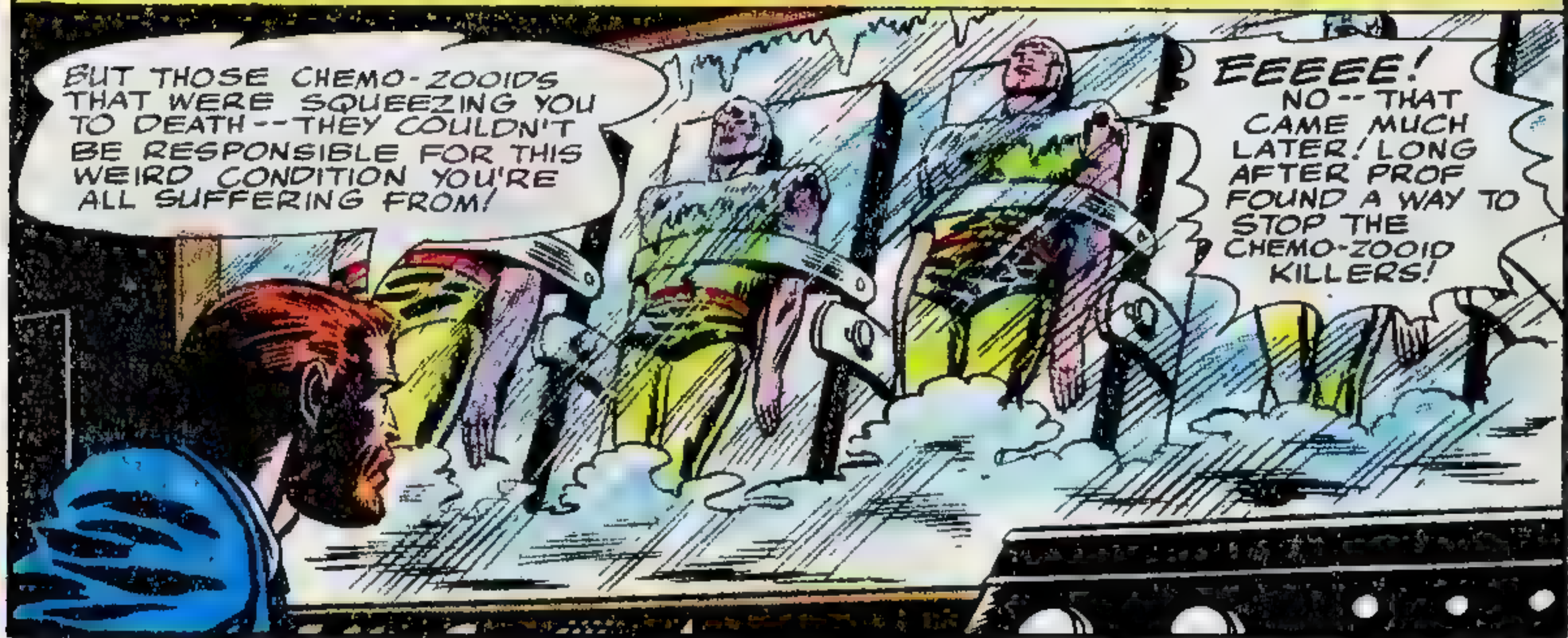
MAIL CHUTE CHIT-CHAT: Lots of cheers for "Queen of the Challenger-Haters" (No. 45), the loudest, from James Mell, Cleveland, O., Fred Grindle, Gresham, Tex., and Keith Romanosky, Houston, Pa., but John Lind, N. Miami, Fla., didn't dig it and called it corny. Well, you can't please everybody all the time!

HELP! BACK ISSUES WANTED: Ken Lucas, 4319 Lumont Ave., Canfield, O. No. 42; Linda Cole, 12894 Blackstone, Detroit 23, Mich. No. 1-7, 15, 21, 26, 27; Dennis Pierce, 1133 21st Ave., Rockford, Ill., No. 1-10; Jimmie Faix, 1112 Ave. C, Bayonne, N.J., all early appearances in "Showcase" plus No. 1, 3, 5 through 8; David Henderson, Swan Quarter, N.C., ditto Showcase issues, plus No. 1-44; Billy Bennett, 2815 Washington Ave., Baton Rouge, La., "Showcase" plus No. 1-27, 29, 31-33. Anybody who wants to part with his treasures can contact the above, who are eager to buy 'em!

Ray Thompson, Chicago, thinks we should change Rocky's name because it sounds like he's a singer. At this late date? We thought everybody knew Rocky! . . . Kirk Novakow, Morton, Ill., wants us to bring back Multi-Man and his robot insects who tried to pin back our heroes' ears in No. 40's "Spy in Challenger Cave." Maybe some day, but right now we're working on a whole new set of swinging villains. . . . Another call for a CHALLENGER Annual, this one from Dick Fletcher, Charleston, S.C., but we have to stand by until the brass gives the order! . . . Malcolm Garren, Kenosha, Wis., wonders how come we've shown our team in their former uniforms in two stories, and wonders why they changed? They were brand-new yarns from the boys' secret past. That's why they were depicted in their old costumes. Why new ones? Wasn't it about time they got rid of those maroon sweat-suits they wore since they first made the scene? You gotta change to stay with the action, and that's just what our gold-clad gladiators did!

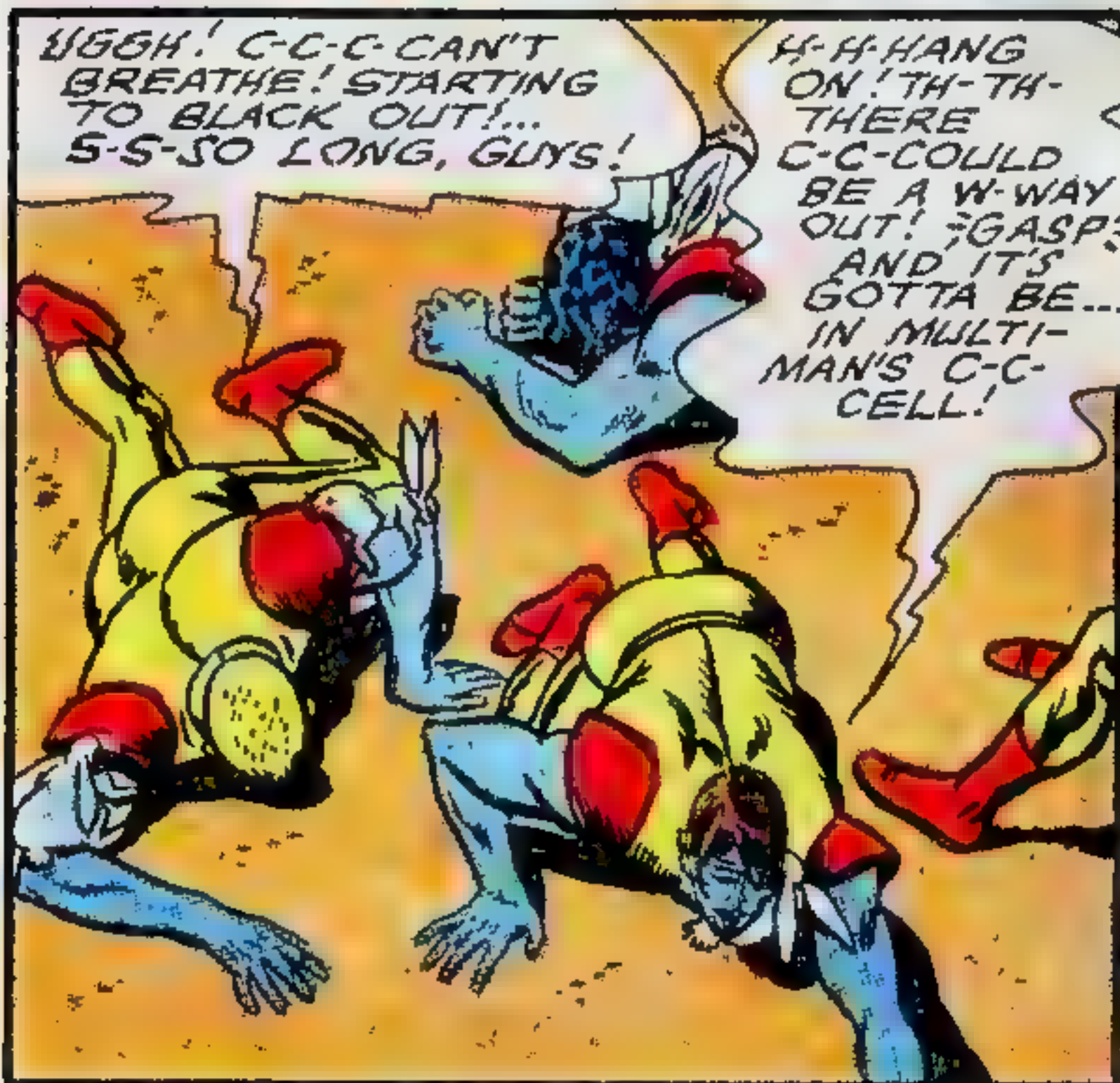
Any comments or questions? Write CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN, National Periodicals, 575 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.

PART 2 KINGDOM OF DARKNESS



BUT THOSE CHEMO-ZOIDS THAT WERE SQUEEZING YOU TO DEATH--THEY COULDN'T BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS WEIRD CONDITION YOU'RE ALL SUFFERING FROM!

EEEEEE!
NO-- THAT CAME MUCH LATER! LONG AFTER PROF FOUND A WAY TO STOP THE CHEMO-ZOIOD KILLERS!

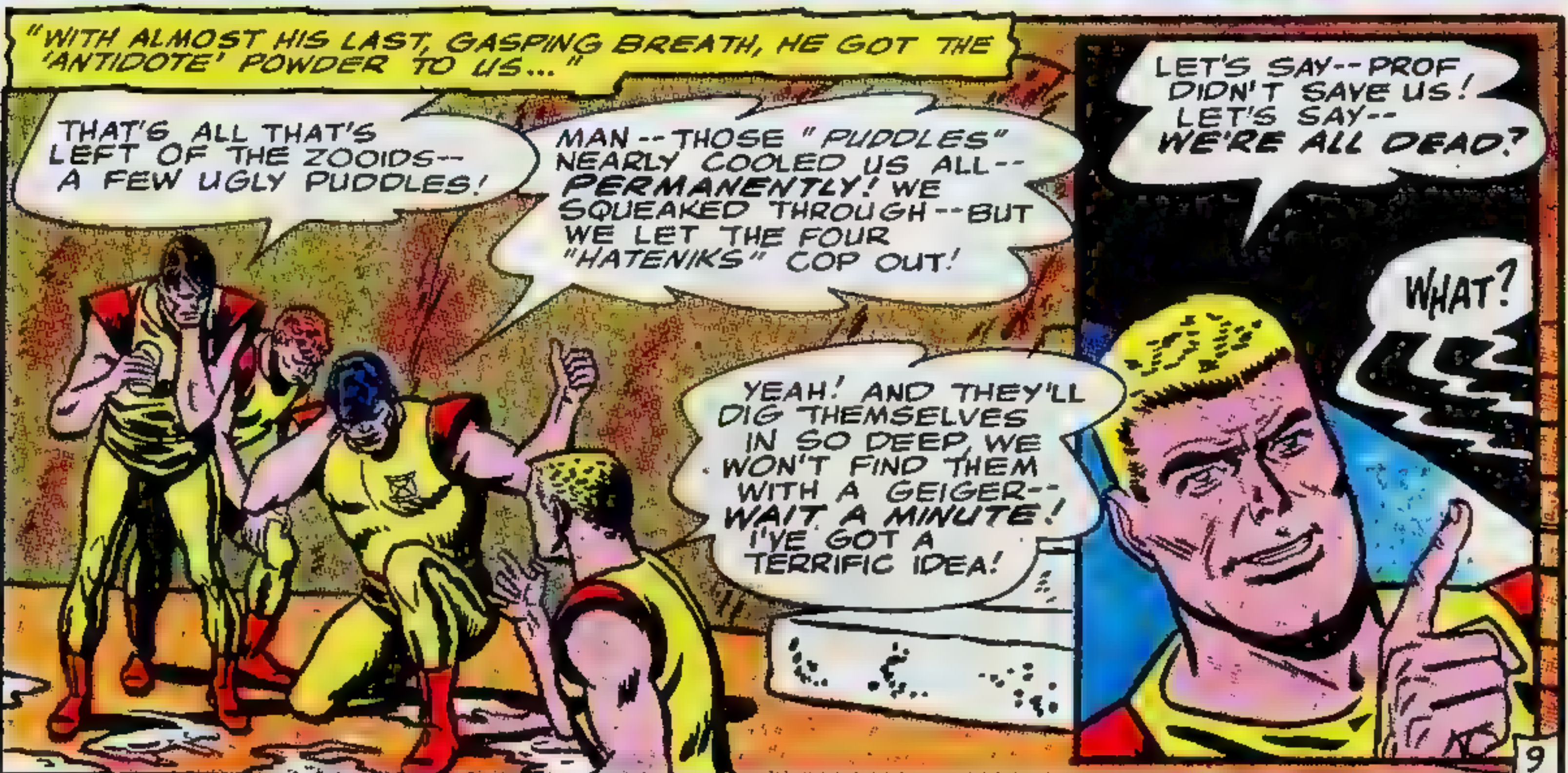


UGGH! C-C-C-CAN'T BREATHE! STARTING TO BLACK OUT!... S-S-SO LONG, GUYS!

H-H-HANG ON! TH-TH-THERE C-C-COULD BE A W-WAY OUT! GASP! AND IT'S GOTTA BE... IN MULTI-MAN'S C-C-CELL!



THAT "MAGIC" POWDER MULTI-MAN DISSOLVED THE FIRST ZOIOD WITH! GASP! IT WAS AN ACID COMPOUND-ED TO DESTROY THEM... IF THEY GOT OUT OF HAND... IF I CAN FIND -- AHHH! THERE IT IS!



"WITH ALMOST HIS LAST, GASPING BREATH, HE GOT THE 'ANTIDOTE' POWDER TO US..."

THAT'S ALL THAT'S LEFT OF THE ZOIODS-- A FEW UGLY PUDDLES!

MAN--THOSE "PUDDLES" NEARLY COOLED US ALL-- PERMANENTLY! WE SQUEAKED THROUGH--BUT WE LET THE FOUR "HATENIKS" COP OUT!

YEAH! AND THEY'LL DIG THEMSELVES IN SO DEEP, WE WON'T FIND THEM WITH A GEIGER-- WAIT A MINUTE! I'VE GOT A TERRIFIC IDEA!

LET'S SAY--PROF DIDN'T SAVE US! LET'S SAY-- WE'RE ALL DEAD?

WHAT?

"WE CALLED A TOP-SECRET MIDNIGHT MEETING WITH ALL THE NEWS AGENCIES, RADIO AND TV..."

"AT THE CHALLENGER-HATERS' HIDEOUT NEXT DAY, IT MUST'VE GONE LIKE THIS..."

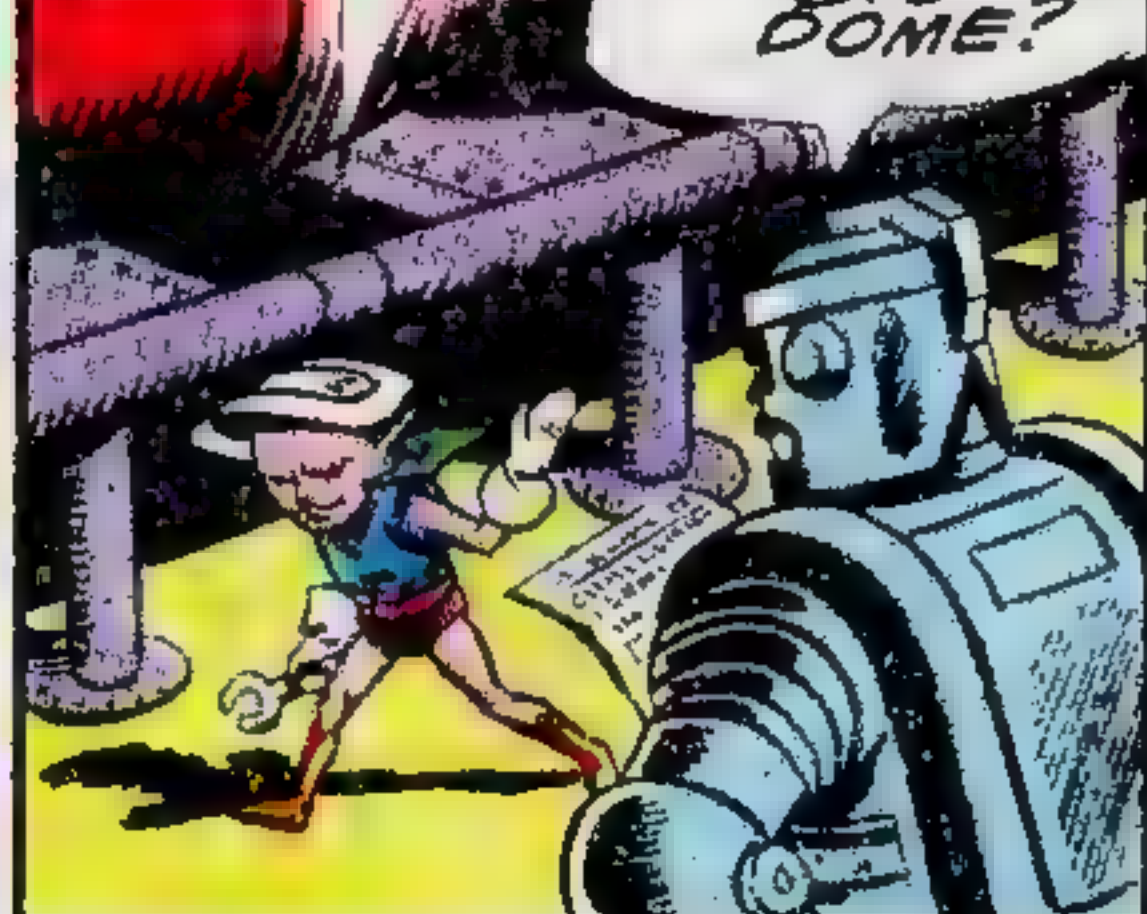
I HEARD IT ON THE RADIO HOURS AGO! WE SHOULD MAKE IT A FESTIVE OCCASION, BUT I HAVEN'T THE TIME!

YOU'VE BEEN WHIZZING AROUND LIKE A BEE WITH HIS TAIL ON FIRE SINCE WE GOT BACK! WHAT PLAYS, BIG DOME?

--DO YOU AGREE TO OUR SCHEME, GENTLEMEN?

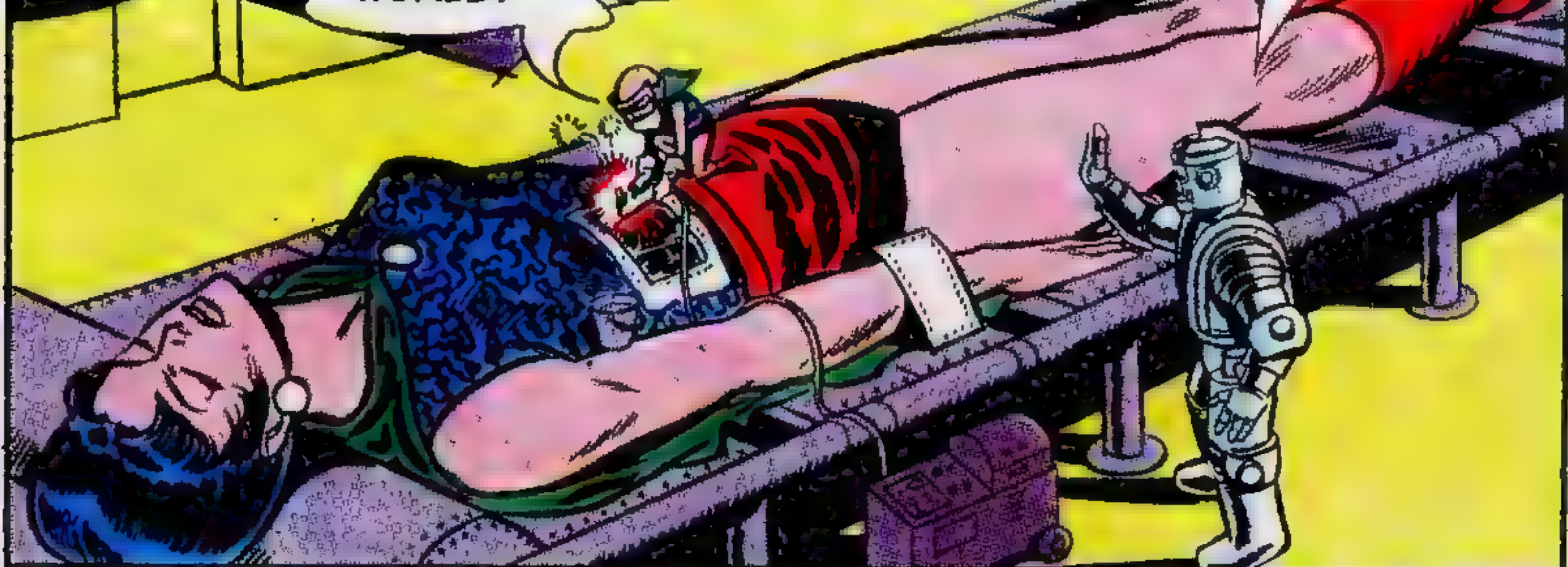
WE'LL COOPERATE COMPLETELY, CHALLENGERS! BUT YOU'LL HAVE THE TOUGH JOB BEING DEAD MEN!

MAN! WAIT TILL MULTI-MAN SEES THIS! HE'LL BREAK OPEN A CASE OF 30-YEAR-OLD CHAMPAGNE TO CELEBRATE!



WITH THE CHALLENGERS FINALLY DEAD, NOTHING CAN STOP ME! MULTI-WOMAN WILL SOON BE READY! AND THEN WE BEGIN-- OPERATION WORLD!

THERE YOU GO AGAIN! YOU'RE STILL HIPPED ON, RULING THIS STUPID PLANET! EVEN IF IT WAS WORTH IT, HOW COULD YOU SWING IT, M-M?



LIKE THIS!

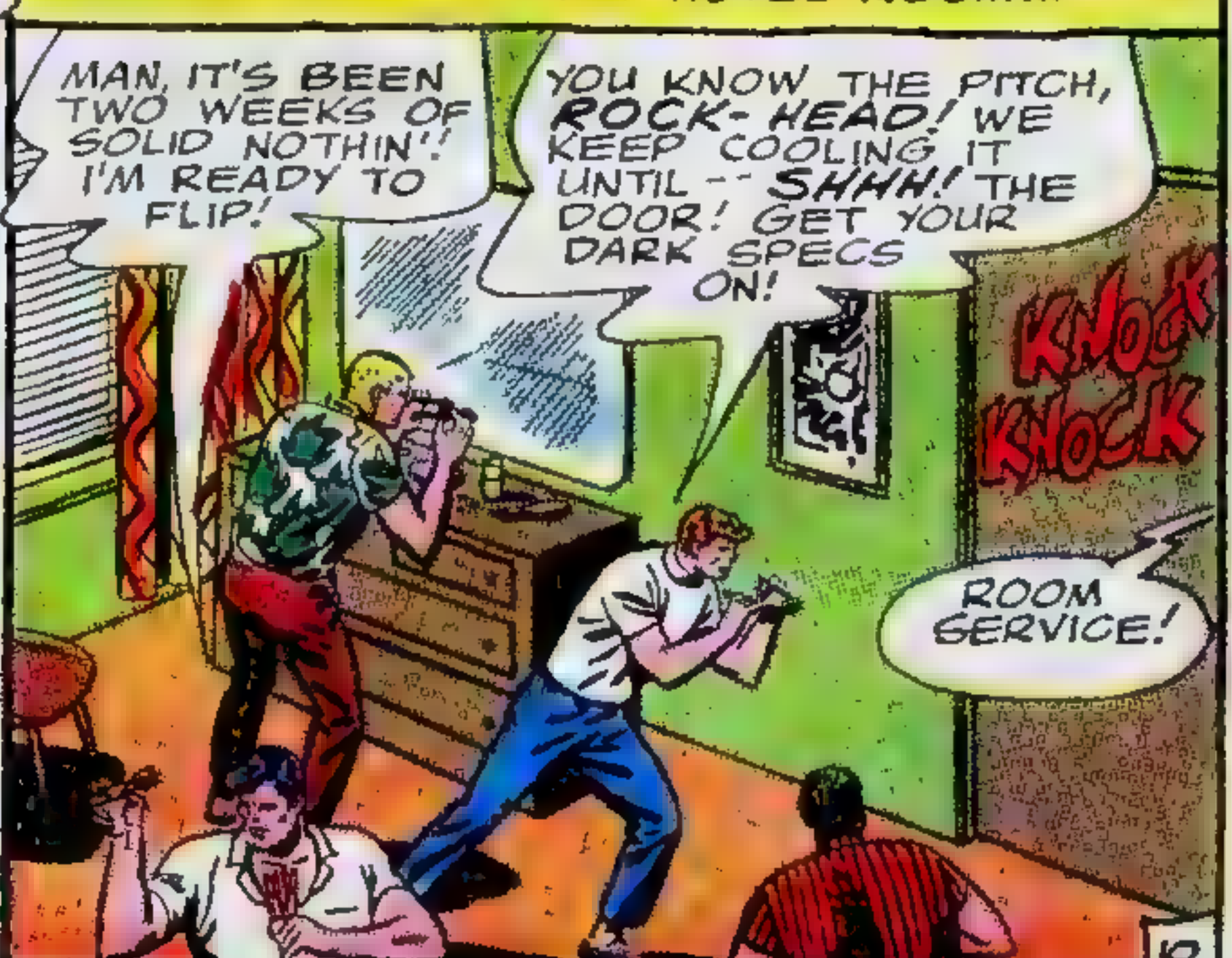
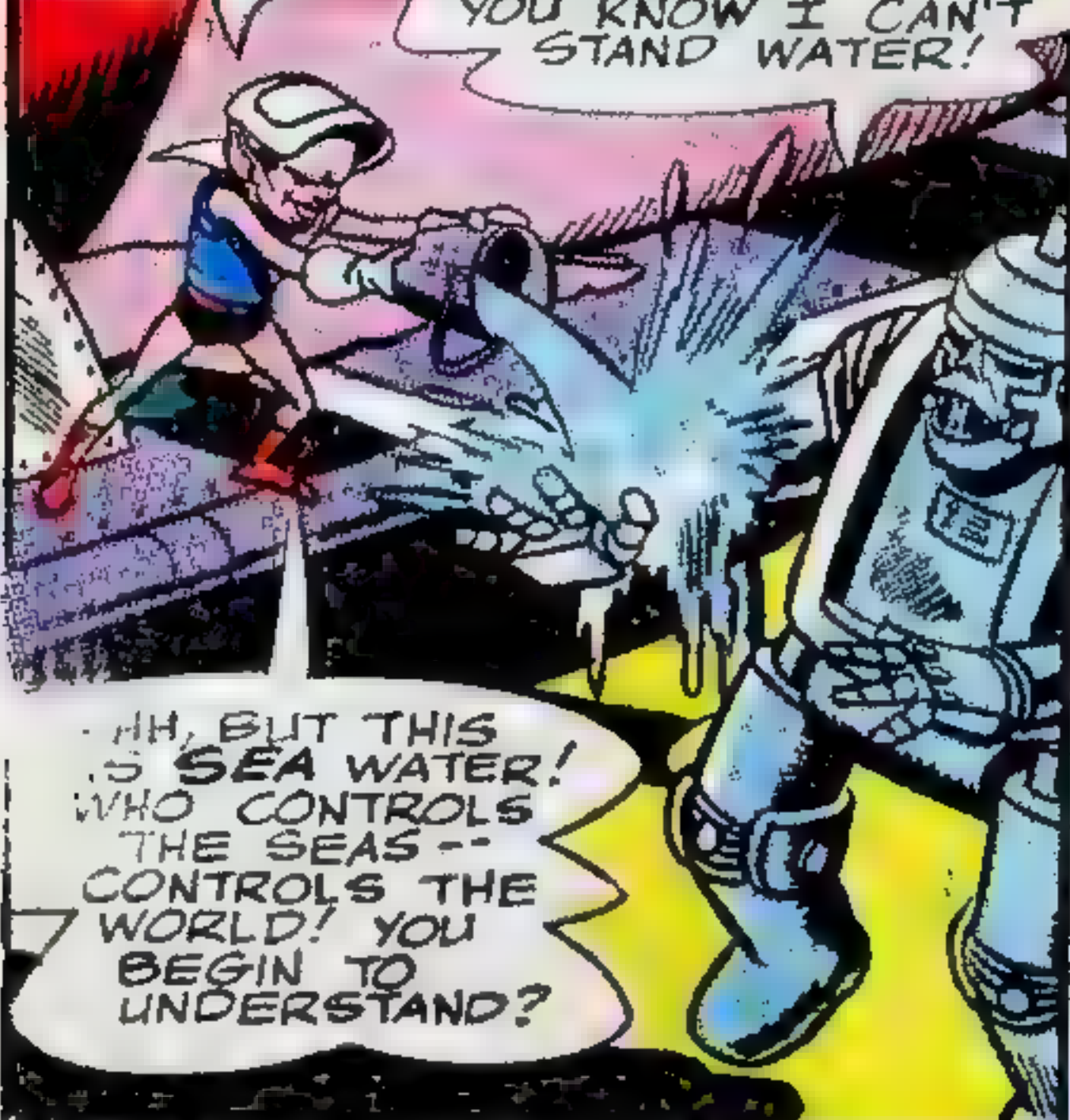
AAGGH! HEY--YOU FAT-HEADED FINK! YOU KNOW I CAN'T STAND WATER!

"MEANWHILE, WE CONTINUED TO PLAY DEAD, LOCKED IN A FLORIDA HOTEL ROOM..."

MAN, IT'S BEEN TWO WEEKS OF SOLID NOTHIN'! I'M READY TO FLIP!

YOU KNOW THE PITCH, ROCK-HEAD! WE KEEP COOLING IT UNTIL-- SHHH! THE DOOR! GET YOUR DARK SPECS ON!

HH, BUT THIS IS SEA WATER! WHO CONTROLS THE SEAS-- CONTROLS THE WORLD! YOU BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND?



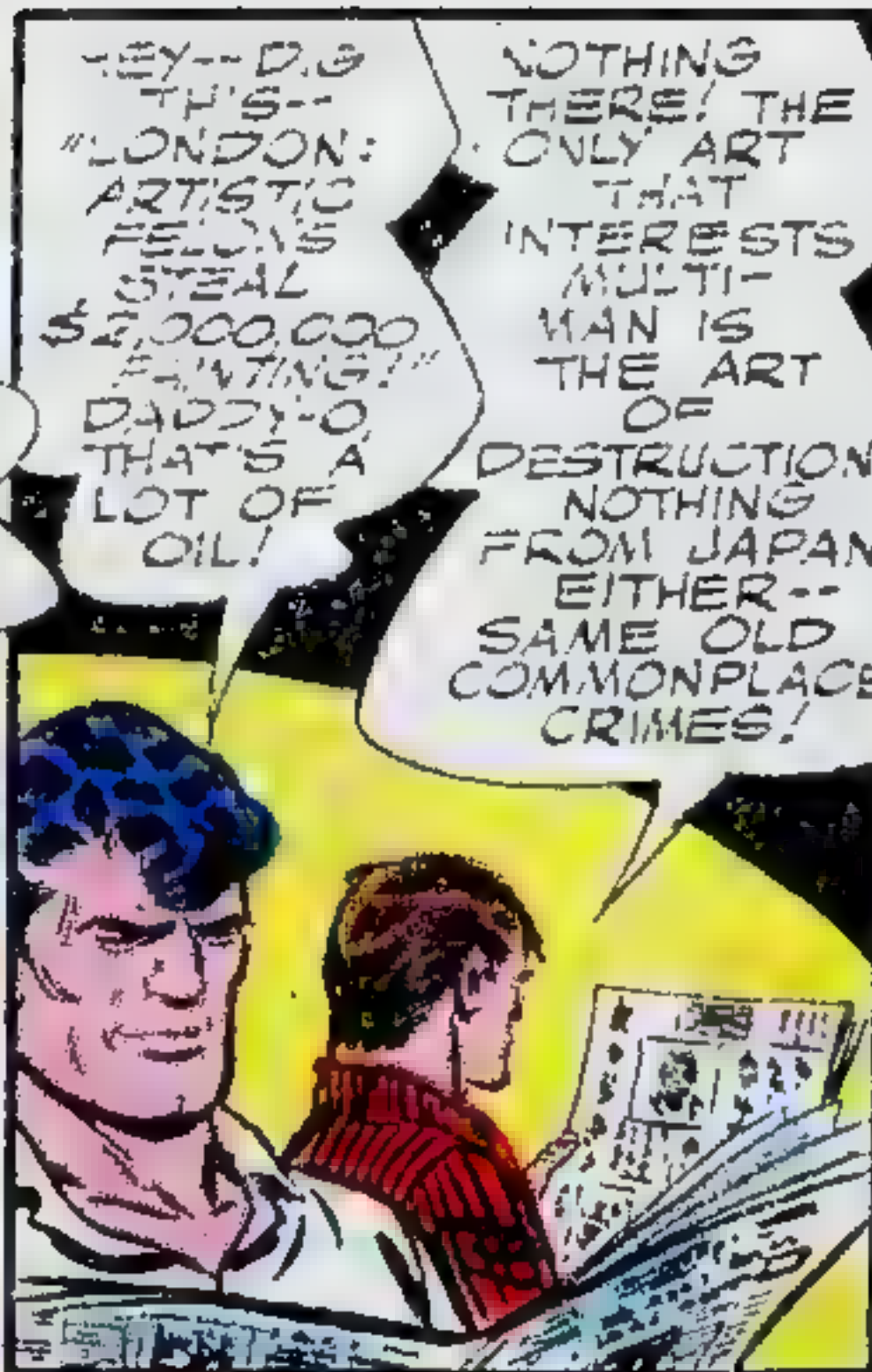
ROOM SERVICE!

KNOCK KNOCK



LUNCH-- AND YOUR USUAL 10 NEWSPAPERS, GENTLEMEN! YOU'LL SURE HATE THE SUN! YOU HAVEN'T BEEN OUTDOORS SINCE YOU'LL ARRIVED.

WELL, WE'LL LIKE IT THAT WAY, SONNY-BOY-ALL! SO SCRAM-ALL!



HEY--DID THIS-- "LONDON: ARTISTIC FELONS STEAL \$2,000,000 PAINTING!" DADDY-O, THAT'S A LOT OF OIL!

NOTHING THERE! THE ONLY ART THAT INTERESTS MULTI-MAN IS THE ART OF DESTRUCTION! NOTHING FROM JAPAN EITHER-- SAME OLD COMMONPLACE CRIMES!



NUTS! THIS IS LIKE LOOKING FOR A CLAM IN A BOWL OF CAFETERIA CHOWDER!

MAYBE NOT! GET THIS-- A SMALL ITEM ON THE SHIPPING PAGE! "FRENCH STEAMER VANISHES AT SEA! THIRD STRANGE DISAPPEARANCE IN 10 DAYS!"

"IT WAS THE WILD, UNEXPECTED SORT OF THING WE WERE LOOKING FOR! PROF MADE SOME QUICK PHONE CALLS..."

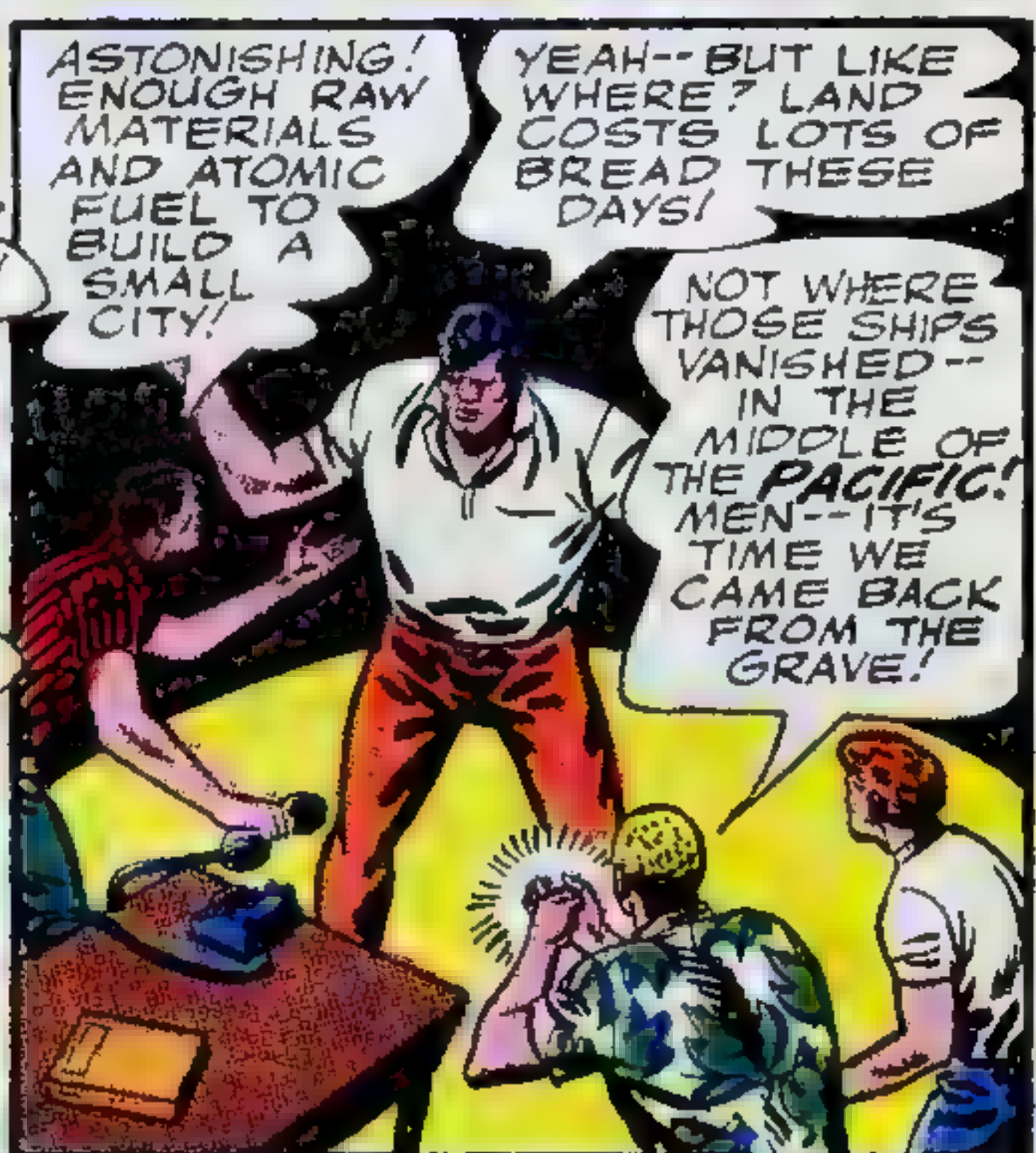


JUST WHAT CARGO WAS YOUR SHIP CARRYING WHEN IT VANISHED?

TEN THOUSAND TONS OF COPPER, MONSIEUR!

SI, PROFESSORE! THE FINEST CONSTRUCTION STEEL!

EXTENSIVE LABORATORY EQUIPMENT, HONORABLE SIR! AND A GREAT DEAL OF PROCESSED URANIUM!

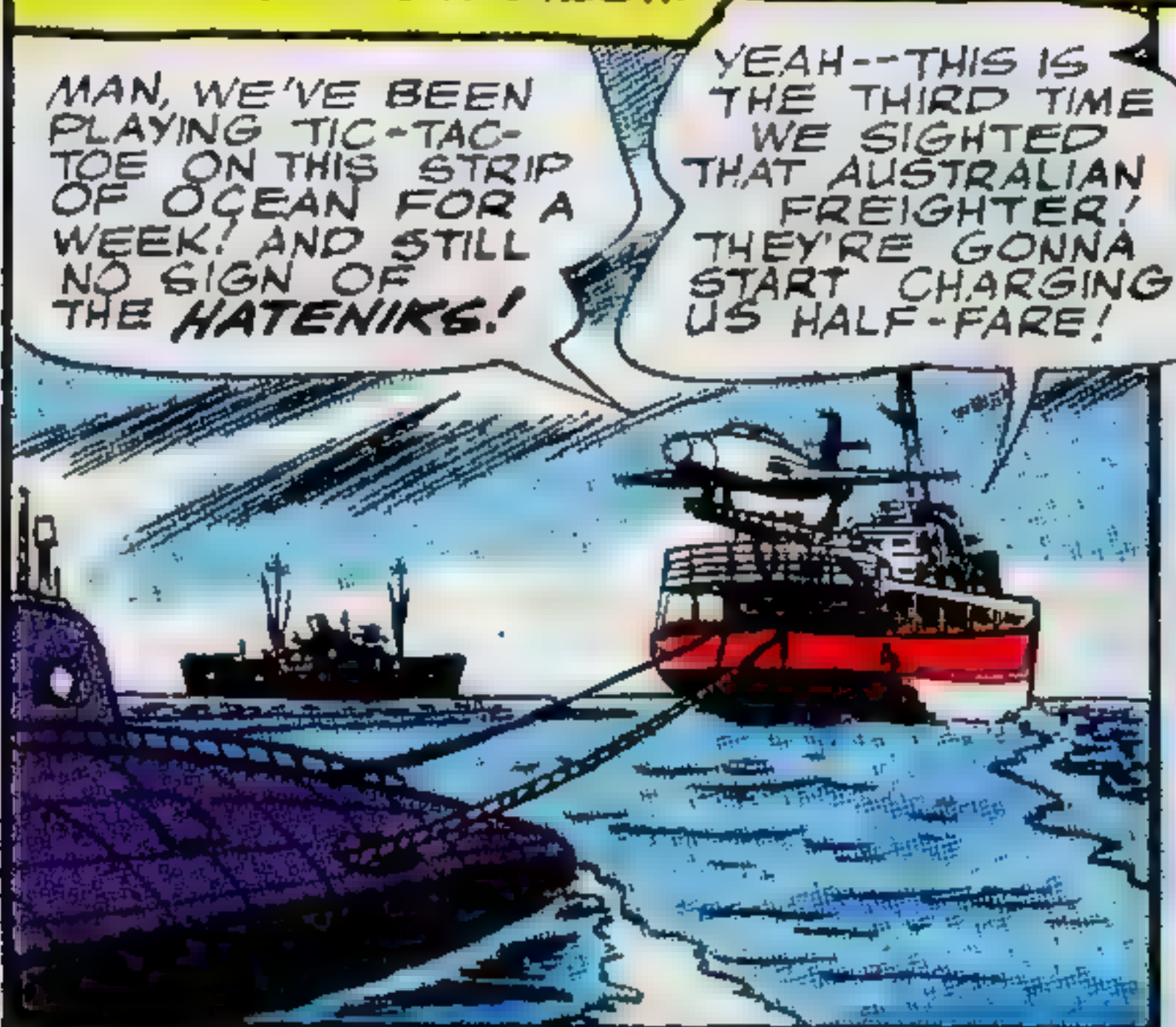


ASTONISHING! ENOUGH RAW MATERIALS AND ATOMIC FUEL TO BUILD A SMALL CITY!

YEAH--BUT LIKE WHERE? LAND COSTS LOTS OF BREAD THESE DAYS!

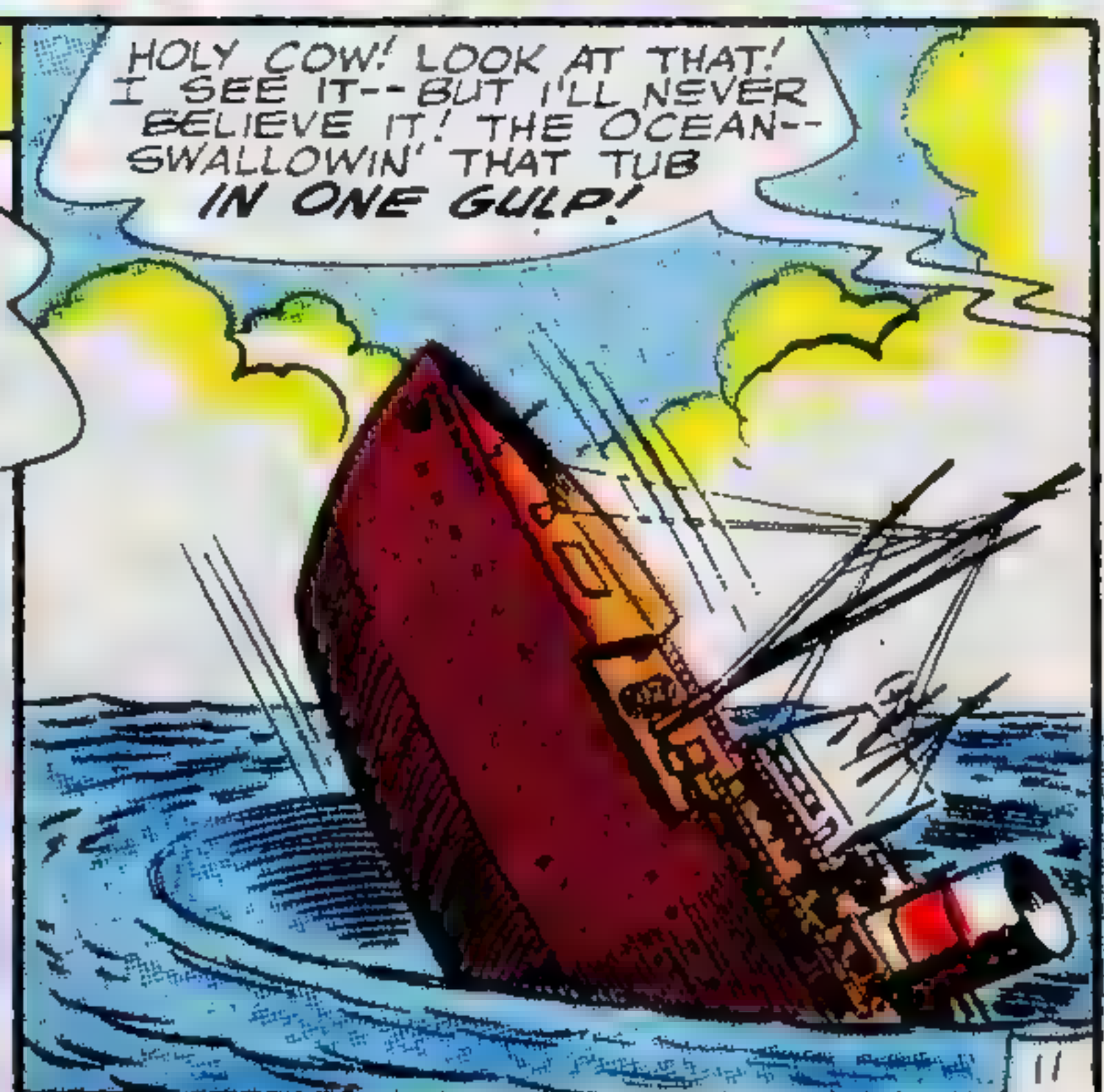
NOT WHERE THOSE SHIPS VANISHED-- IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PACIFIC! MEN--IT'S TIME WE CAME BACK FROM THE GRAVE!

"WE USED THE SEA CRUISER THAT PROF. OUR 'MONEYBAGS' ONCE BUILT FOR HIS MARINE STUDIES..."



MAN, WE'VE BEEN PLAYING TIC-TAC-TOE ON THIS STRIP OF OCEAN FOR A WEEK! AND STILL NO SIGN OF THE HATENIKS!

YEAH--THIS IS THE THIRD TIME WE SIGHTED THAT AUSTRALIAN FREIGHTER! THEY'RE GONNA START CHARGING US HALF-FARE!



HOLY COW! LOOK AT THAT! I SEE IT--BUT I'LL NEVER BELIEVE IT! THE OCEAN--SWALLOWIN' THAT TUB IN ONE GULP!

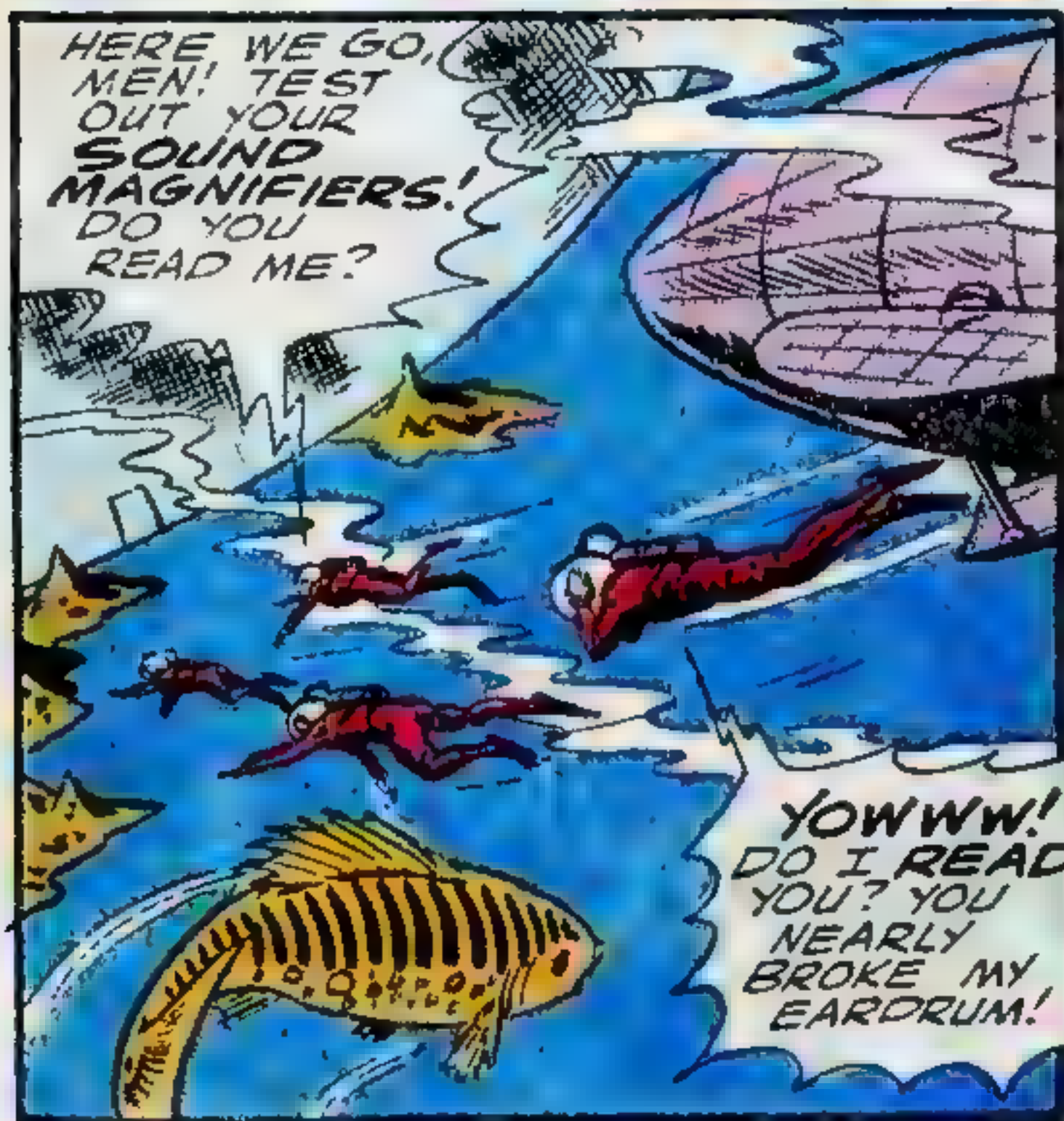


"WE UNLASHED OUR MINI-SUBMARINE, AND WERE ON ITS TRAIL IN A FLASH..."

WOWEEEE! A PNEUMATIC TUBE AS WIDE AS THE HOLLAND TUNNEL-- SUCKING THAT FREIGHTER STRAIGHT DOWN!

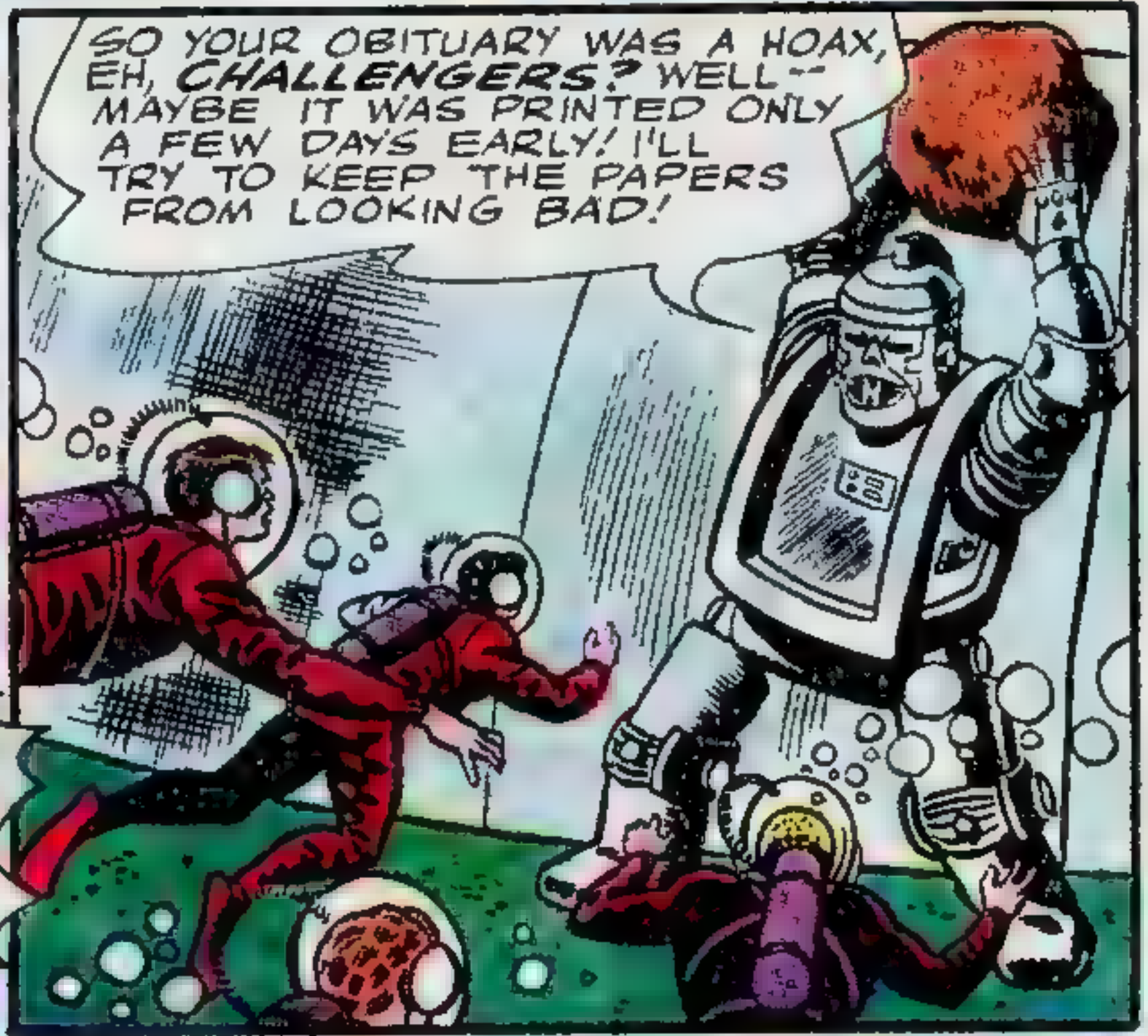
AND THERE'S ITS LAST PORT OF CALL-- AN UNDER-WATER CITY!

THAT'S M-M'S DOING! THAT EGGHEADED DWARF HAS REALLY TOPPED HIMSELF THIS TIME!



HERE WE GO, MEN! TEST OUT YOUR SOUND MAGNIFIERS! DO YOU READ ME?

YOWWW! DO I READ YOU? YOU NEARLY BROKE MY EARDRUM!

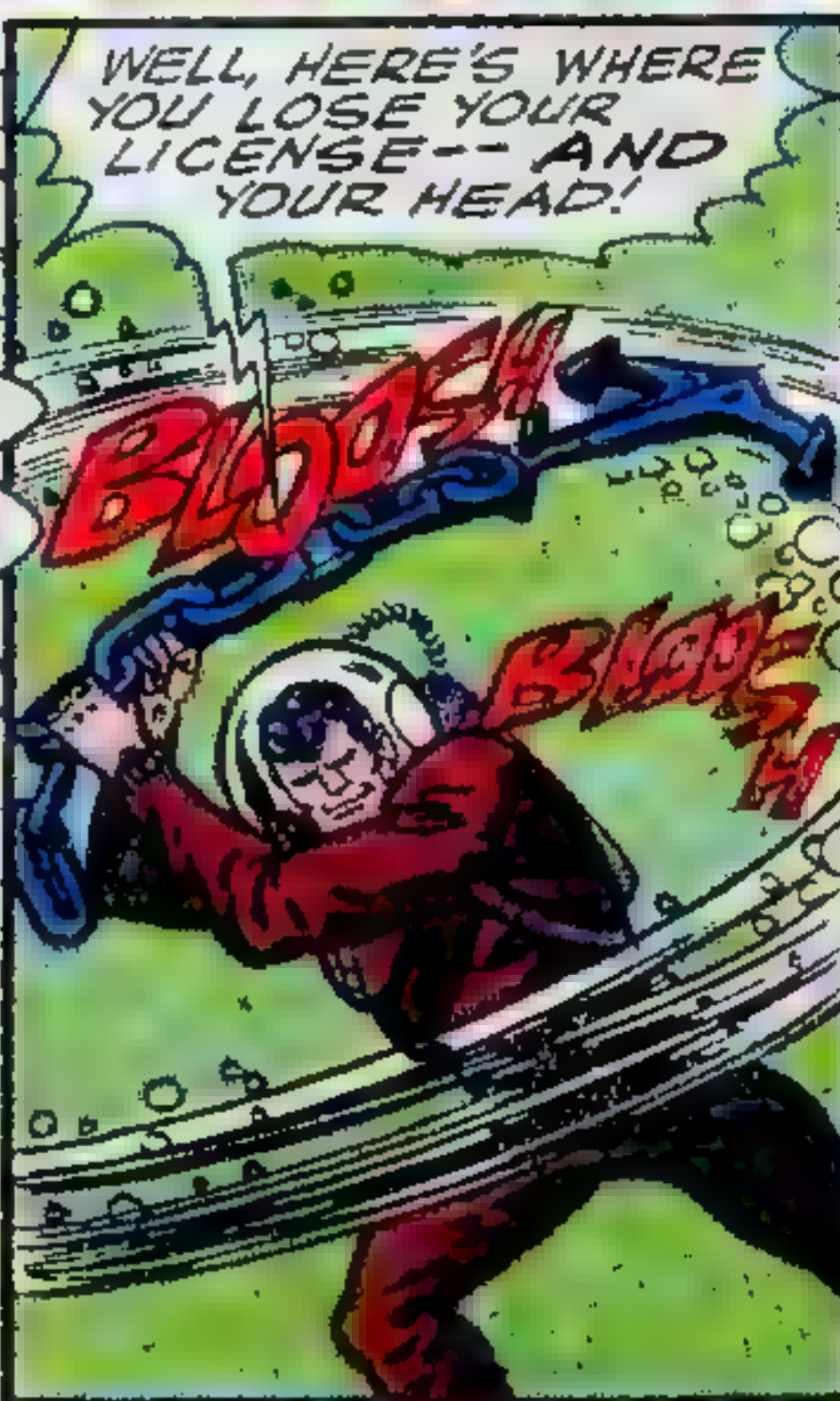


SO YOUR OBITUARY WAS A HOAX, EH, CHALLENGERS? WELL-- MAYBE IT WAS PRINTED ONLY A FEW DAYS EARLY! I'LL TRY TO KEEP THE PAPERS FROM LOOKING BAD!

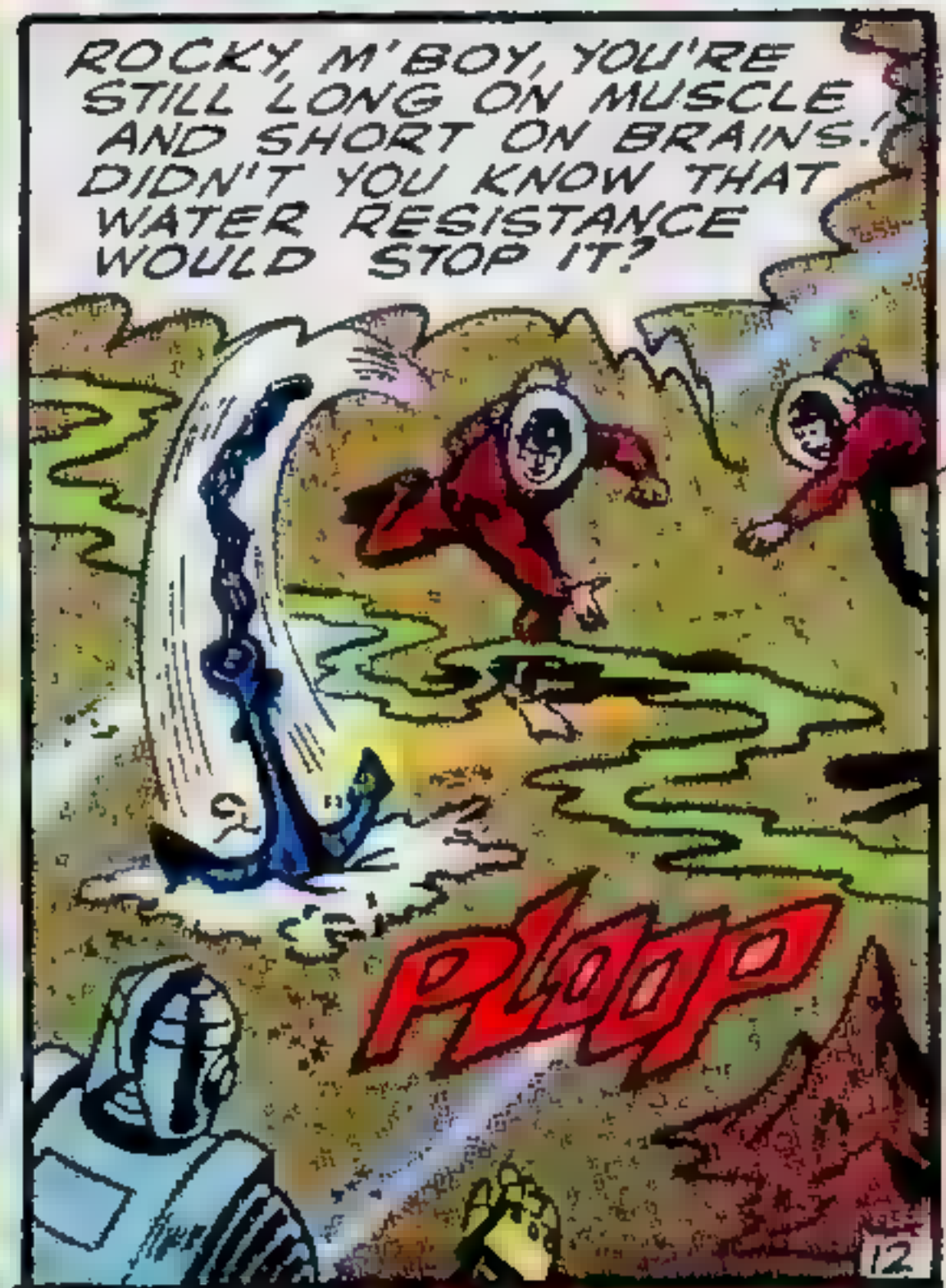


MISSED! BUT DON'T LOOK SO UNHAPPY OR THEY'LL CALL YOU A KRA-BABY! HEY--HOW COME THIS WATER DIDN'T TURN YOU OFF?

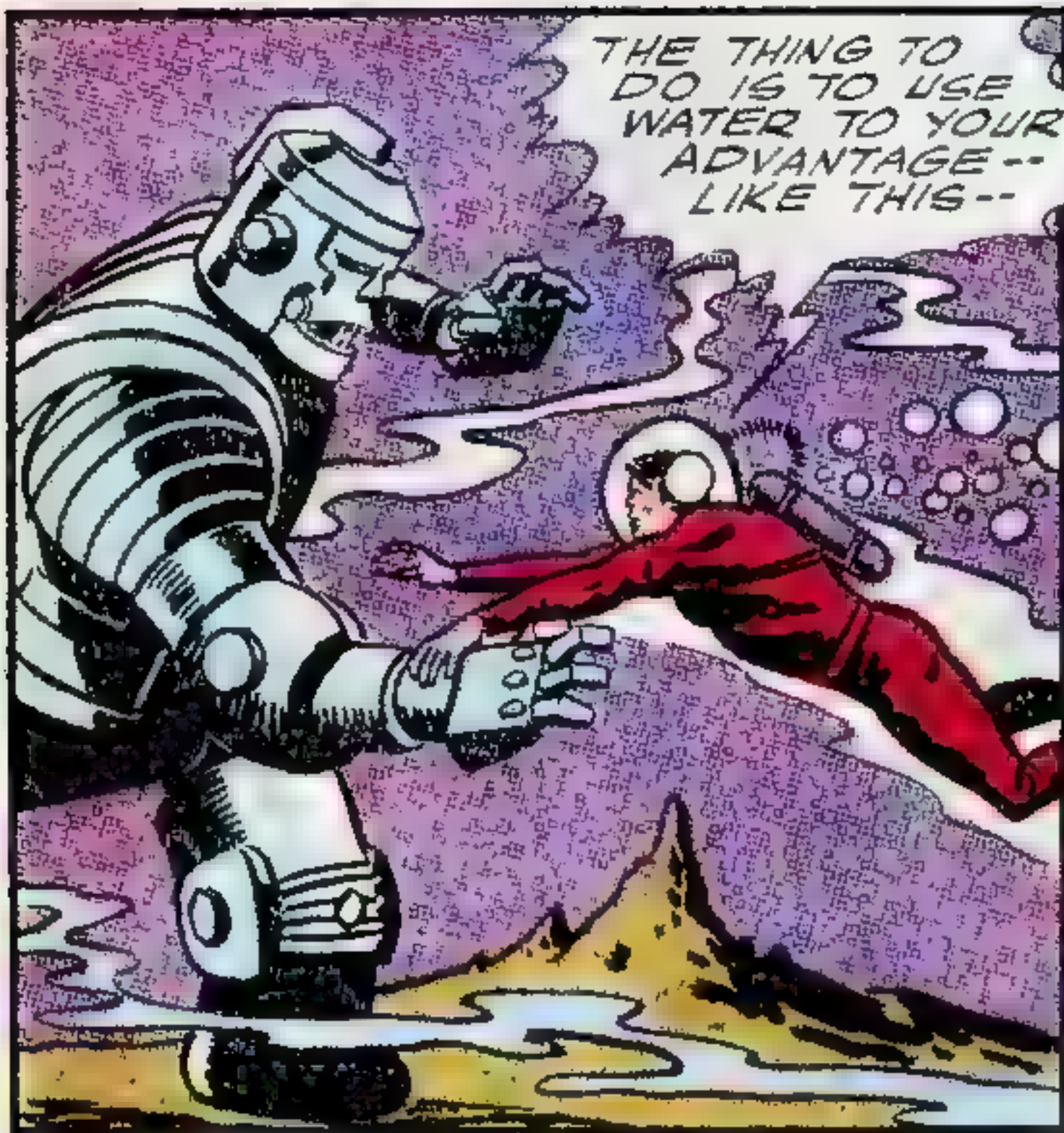
BECAUSE M-M GAVE ME TEMPORARY IMMUNITY-- AND A LICENSE TO KILL YOU!



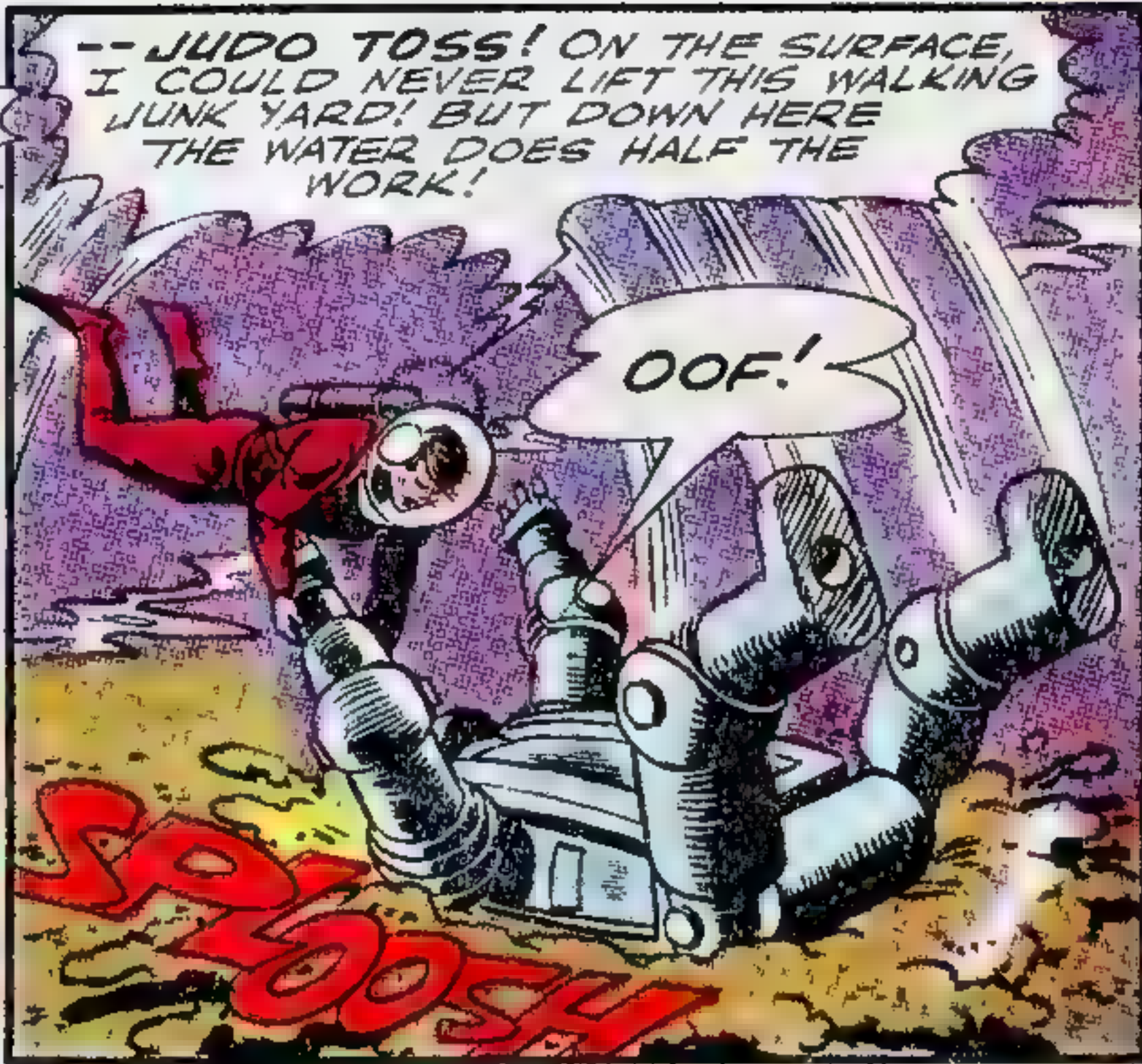
WELL, HERE'S WHERE YOU LOSE YOUR LICENSE-- AND YOUR HEAD!



ROCKY, M'BOY, YOU'RE STILL LONG ON MUSCLE AND SHORT ON BRAINS! DIDN'T YOU KNOW THAT WATER RESISTANCE WOULD STOP IT?



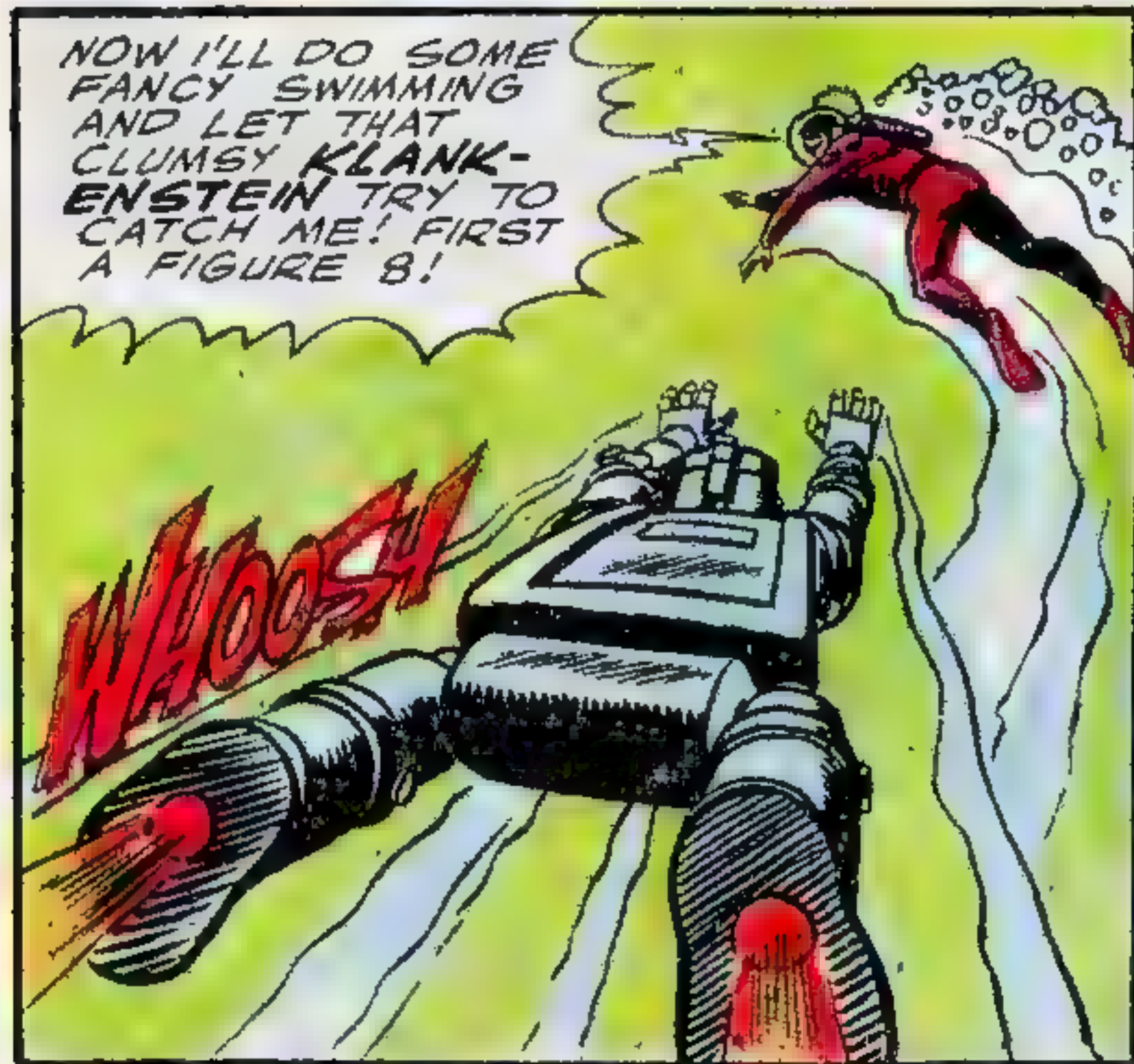
THE THING TO
DO IS TO USE
WATER TO YOUR
ADVANTAGE--
LIKE THIS--



-- JUDO TOSS! ON THE SURFACE,
I COULD NEVER LIFT THIS WALKING
JUNK YARD! BUT DOWN HERE
THE WATER DOES HALF THE
WORK!

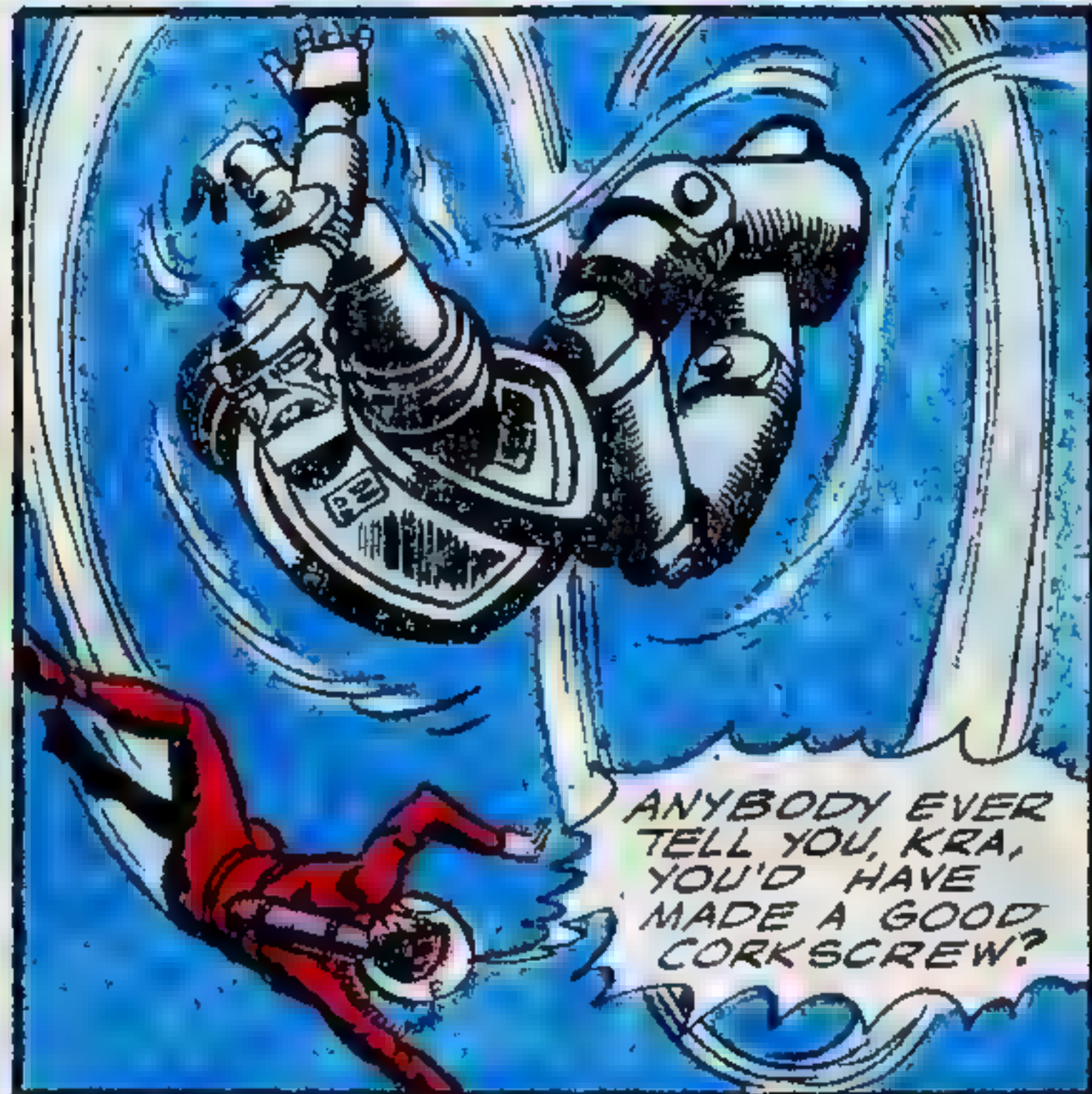
OOF!

SPLASH

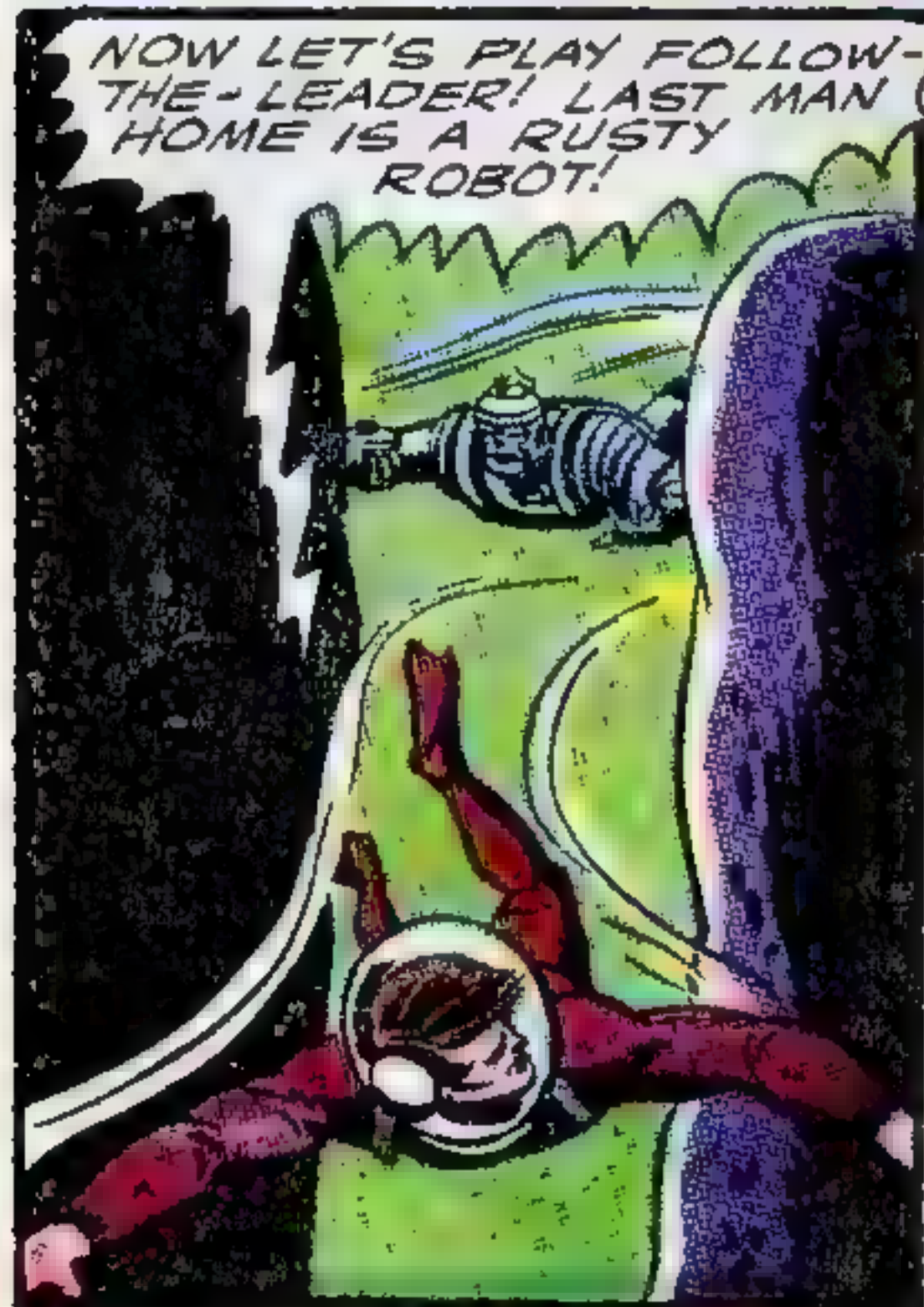


NOW I'LL DO SOME
FANCY SWIMMING
AND LET THAT
CLUMSY KLANK-
ENSTEIN TRY TO
CATCH ME! FIRST
A FIGURE 8!

WHOOSH



ANYBODY EVER
TELL YOU, KRA,
YOU'D HAVE
MADE A GOOD
CORKSCREW?



NOW LET'S PLAY FOLLOW-
THE-LEADER! LAST MAN
HOME IS A RUSTY
ROBOT!

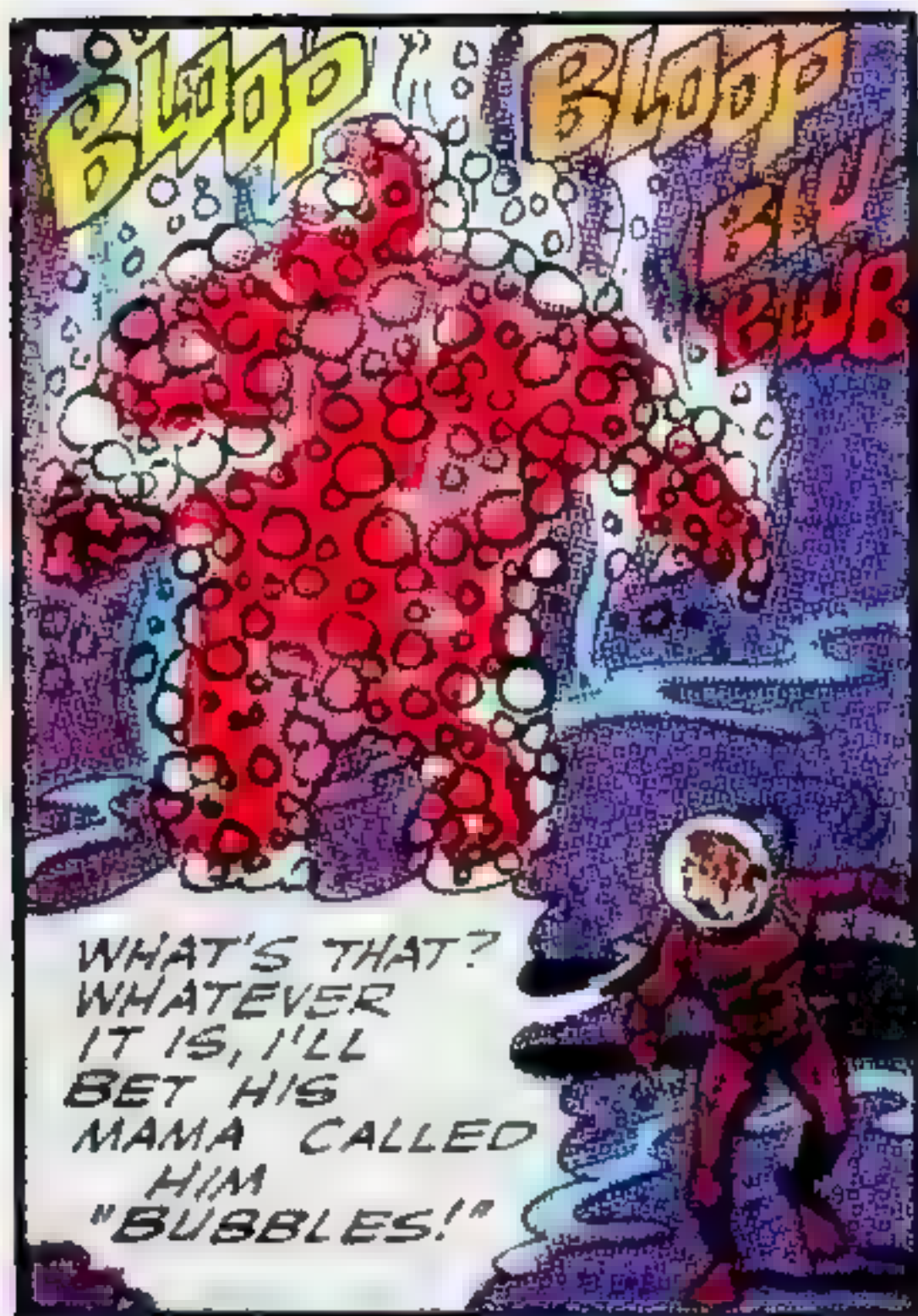


THERE'S A 25¢ TOLL
FOR PASSING
BETWEEN BOULDERS!
AND DON'T SAY
NOBODY TOLL YA!

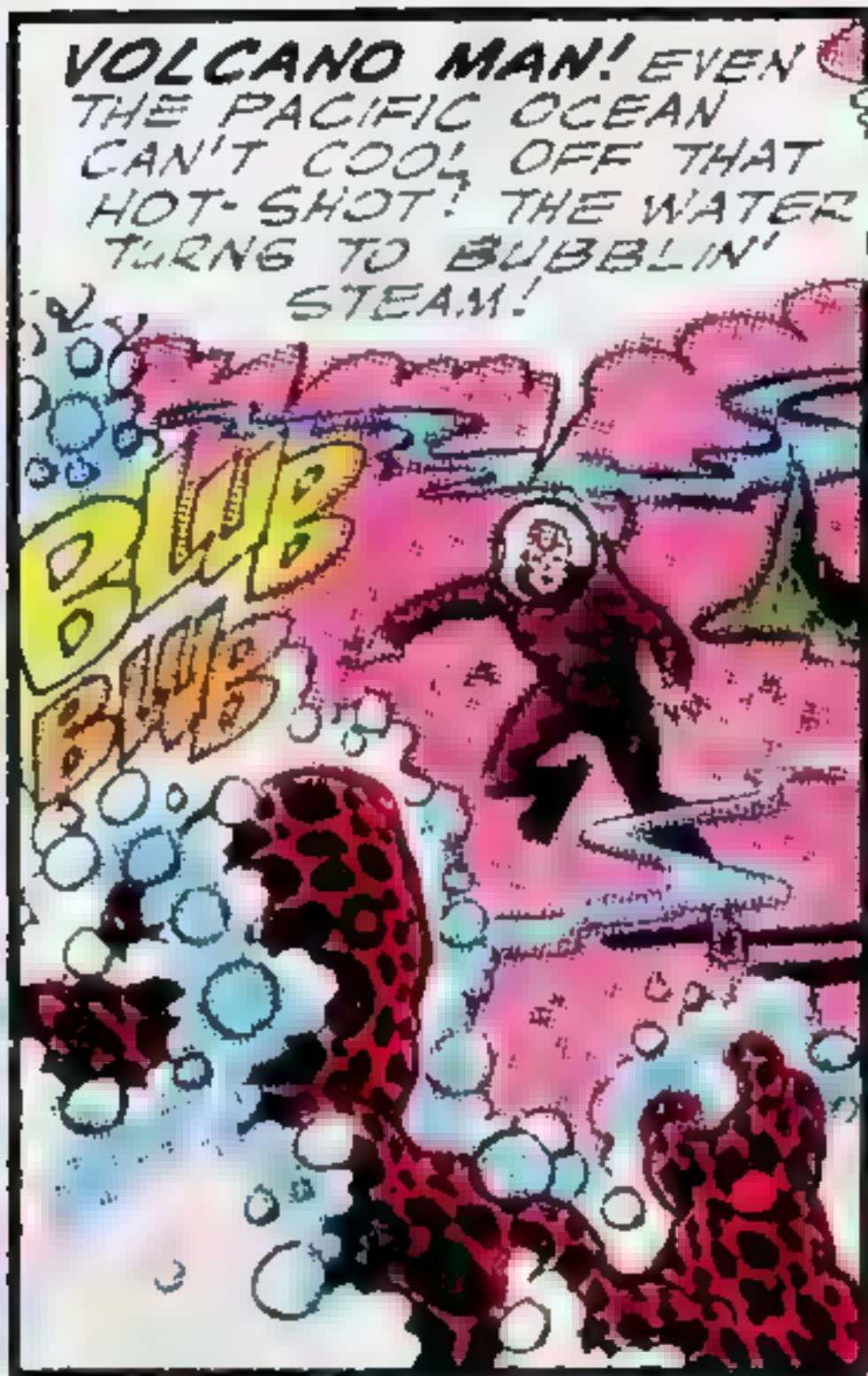


CHICKEN-LICKEN, THE
SKY IS FALLING DOWN!
LIKE -- **KABOOM!**

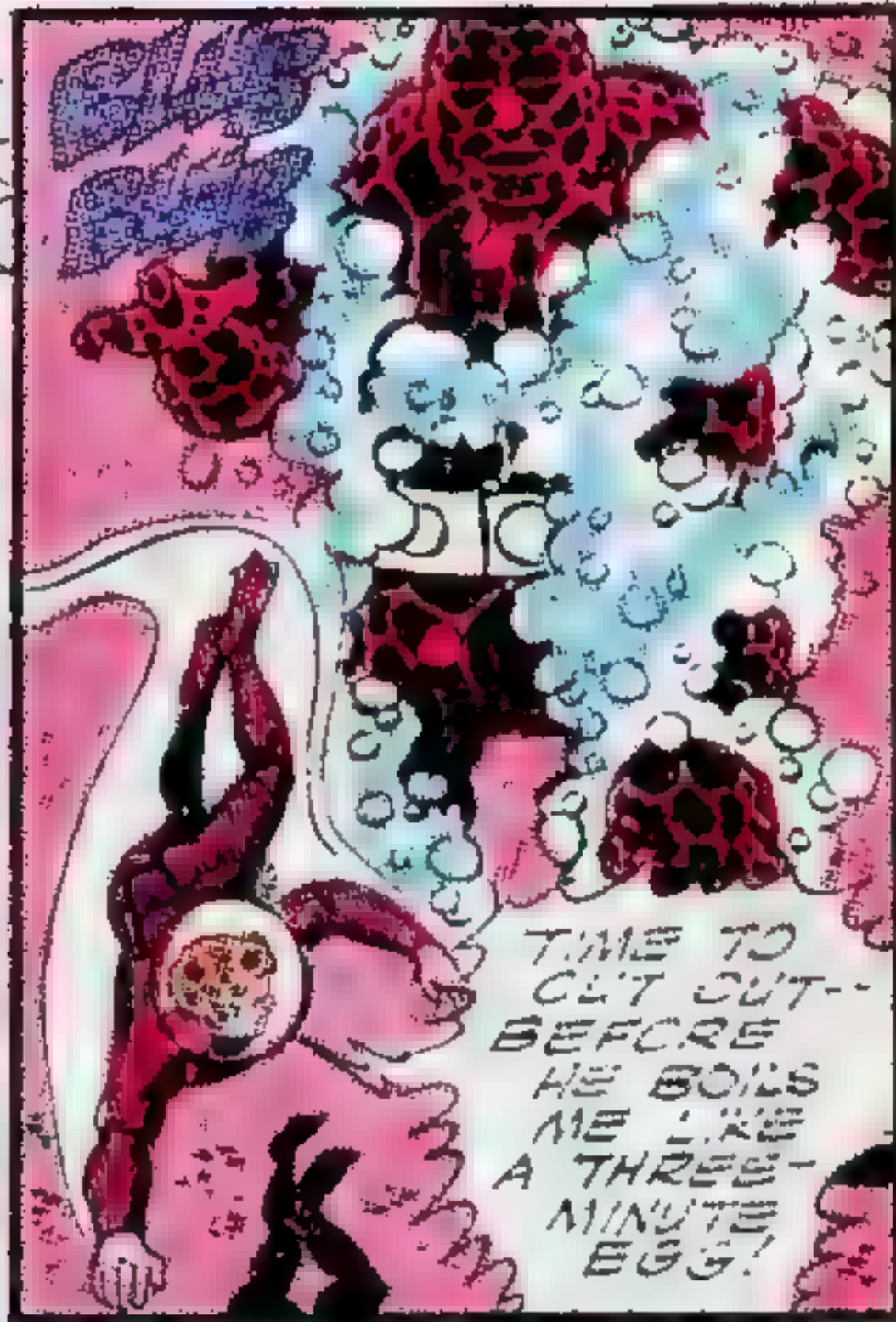
KABOOM!



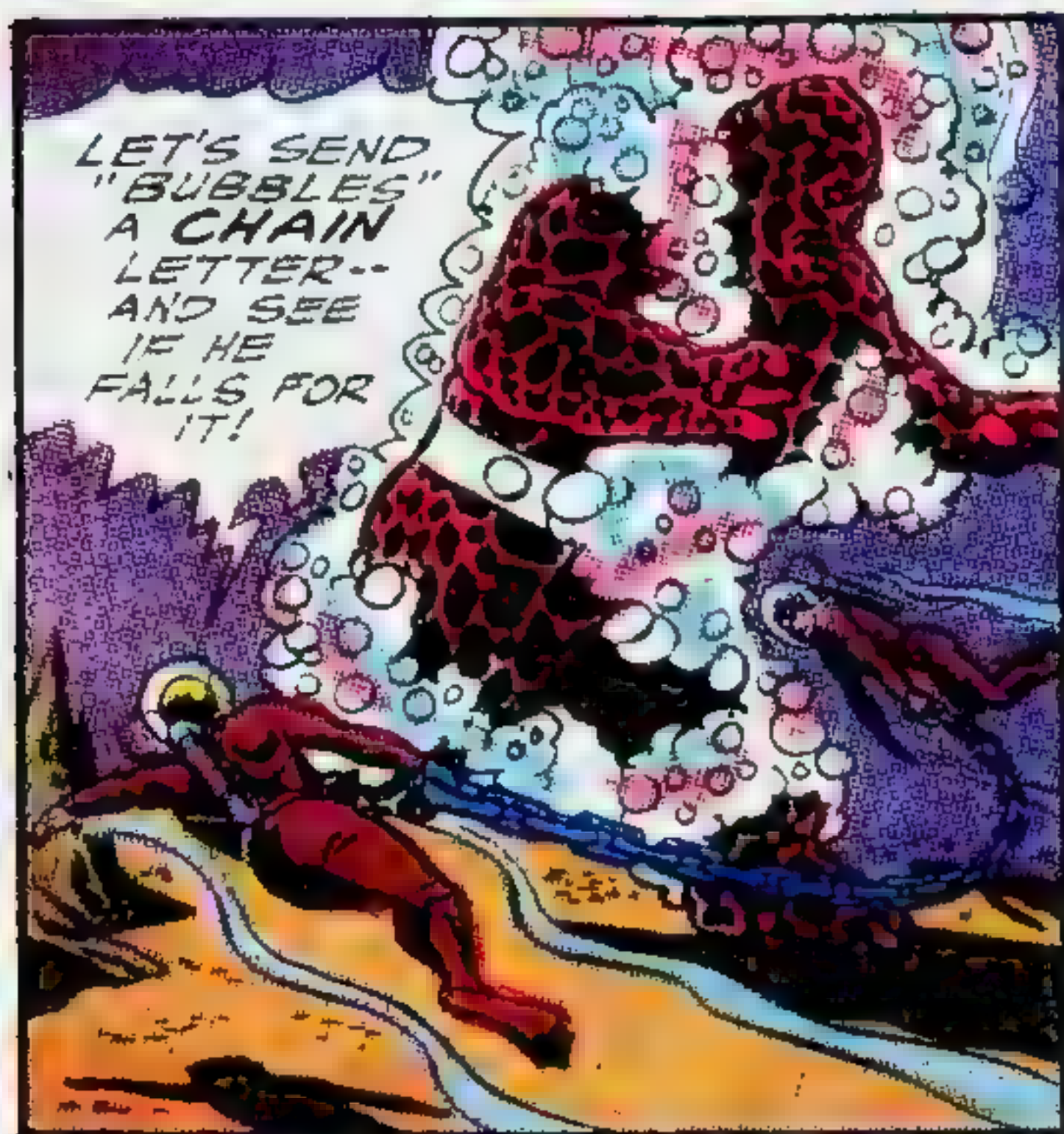
WHAT'S THAT?
WHATEVER
IT IS, I'LL
BET HIS
MAMA CALLED
HIM
"BUBBLES!"



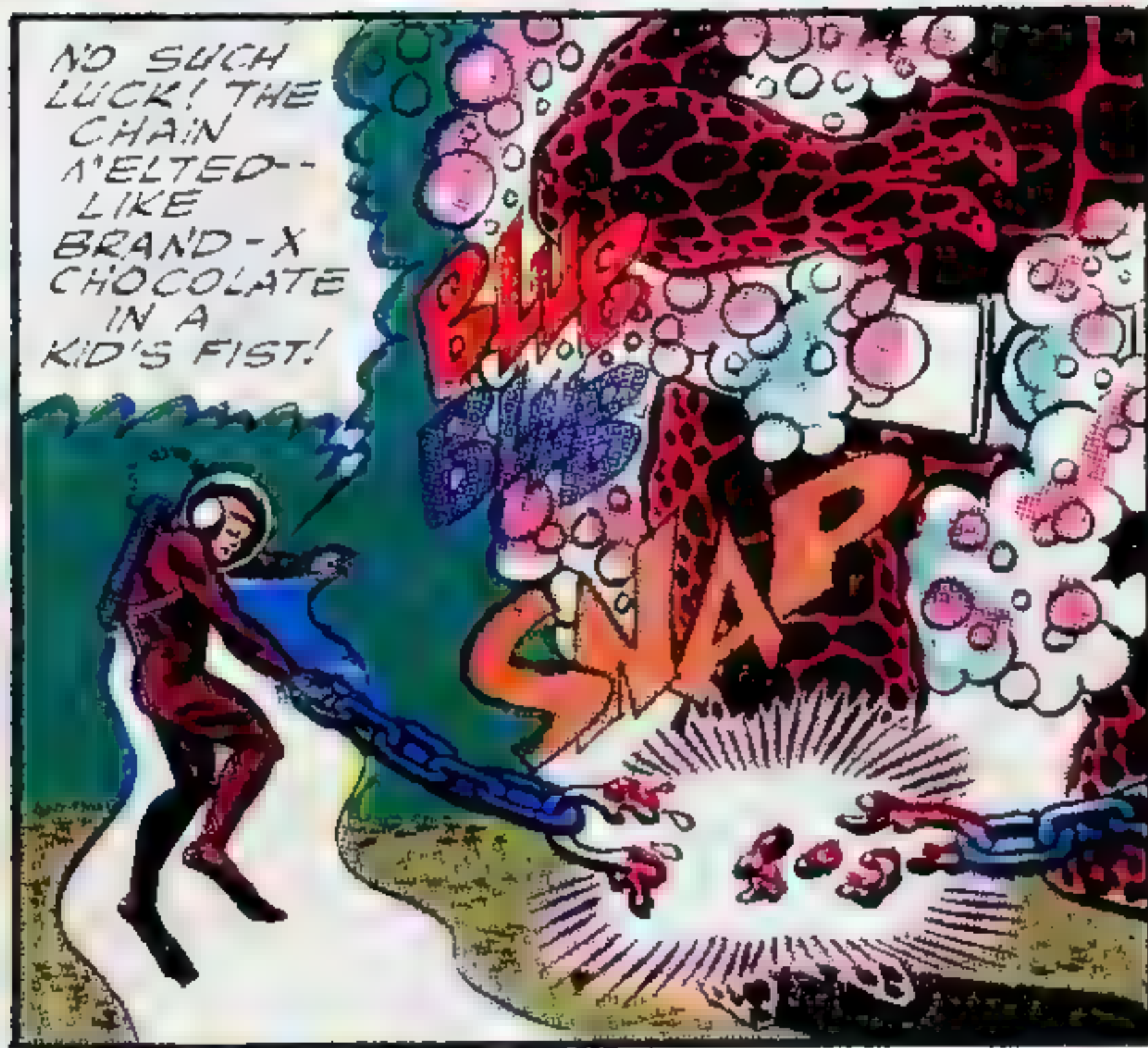
VOLCANO MAN! EVEN
THE PACIFIC OCEAN
CAN'T COOL OFF THAT
HOT-SHOT! THE WATER
TURNS TO BUBBLIN'
STEAM!



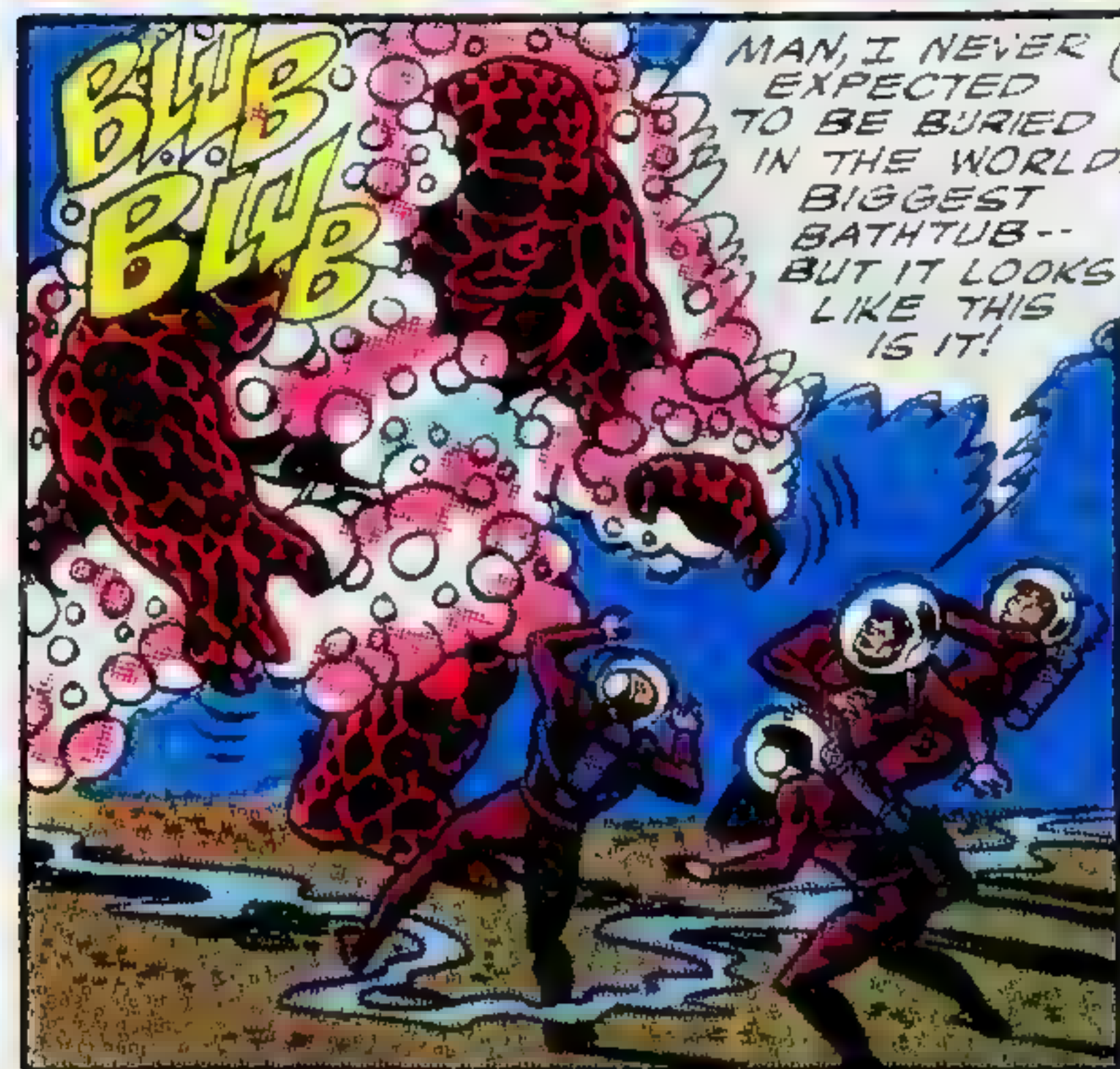
TIME TO
CLT CUT--
BEFORE
HE BOILS
ME LIKE
A THREE-
MINUTE
EGG!



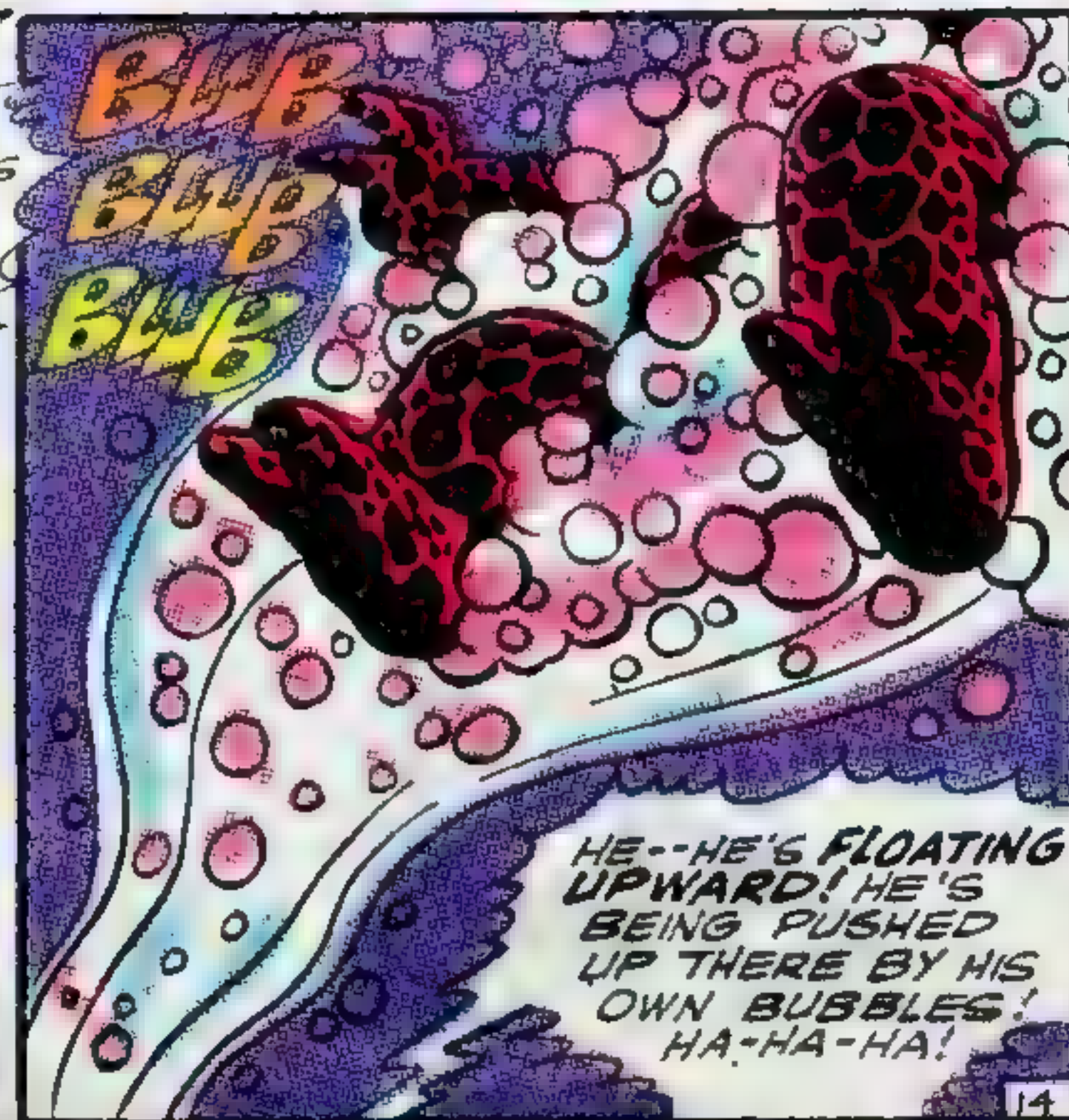
LET'S SEND
"BUBBLES"
A CHAIN
LETTER--
AND SEE
IF HE
FALLS FOR
IT!



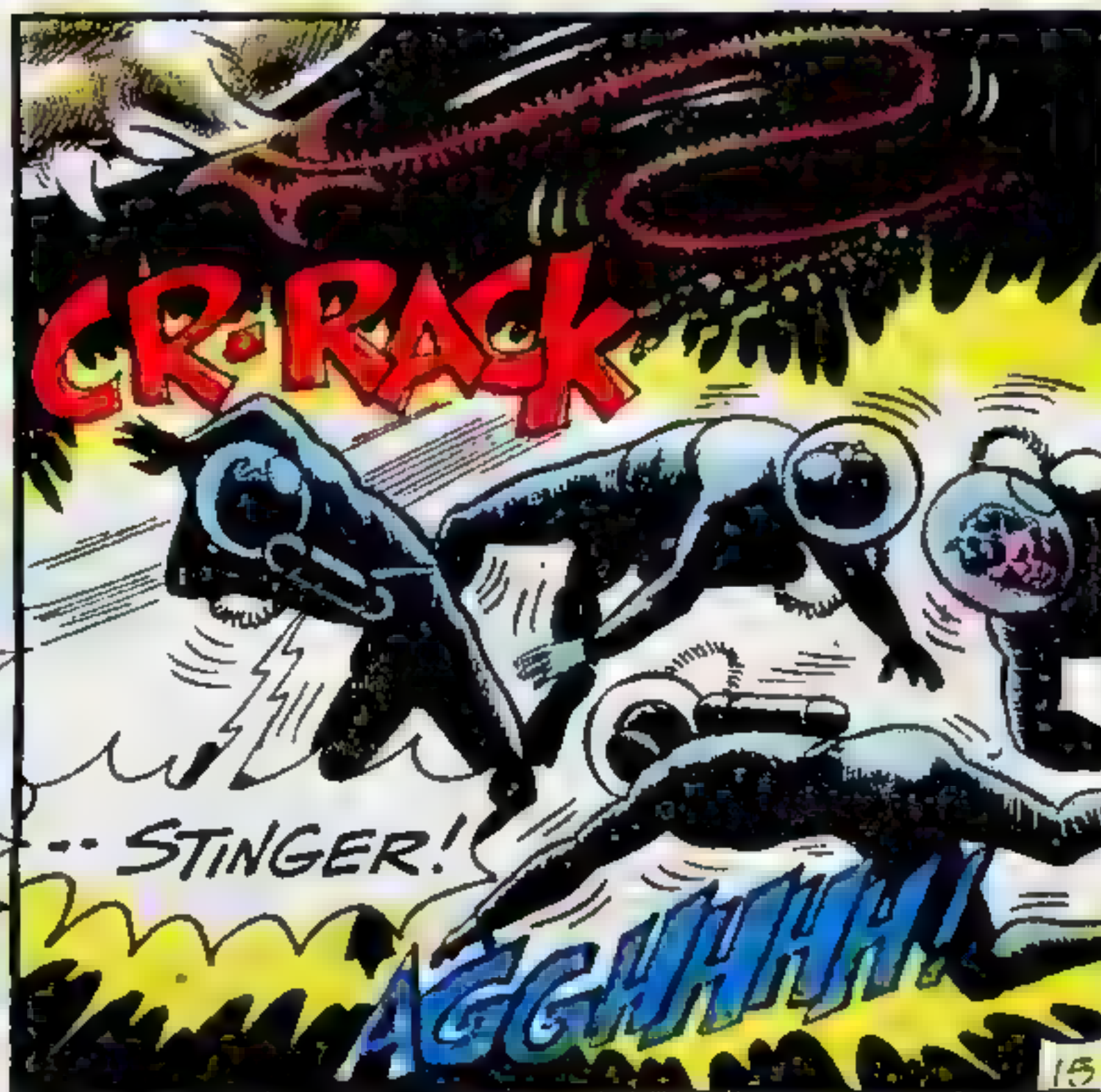
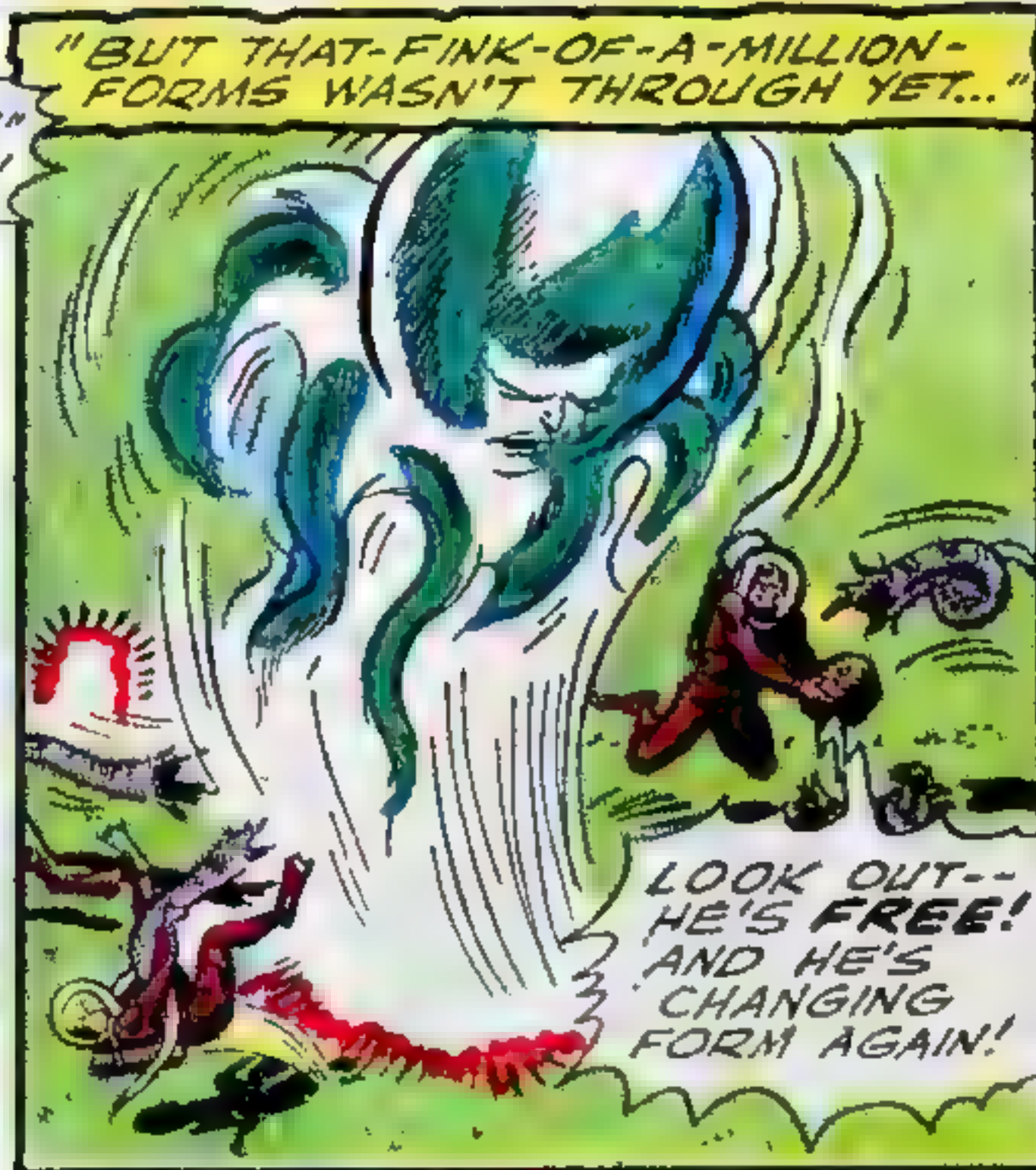
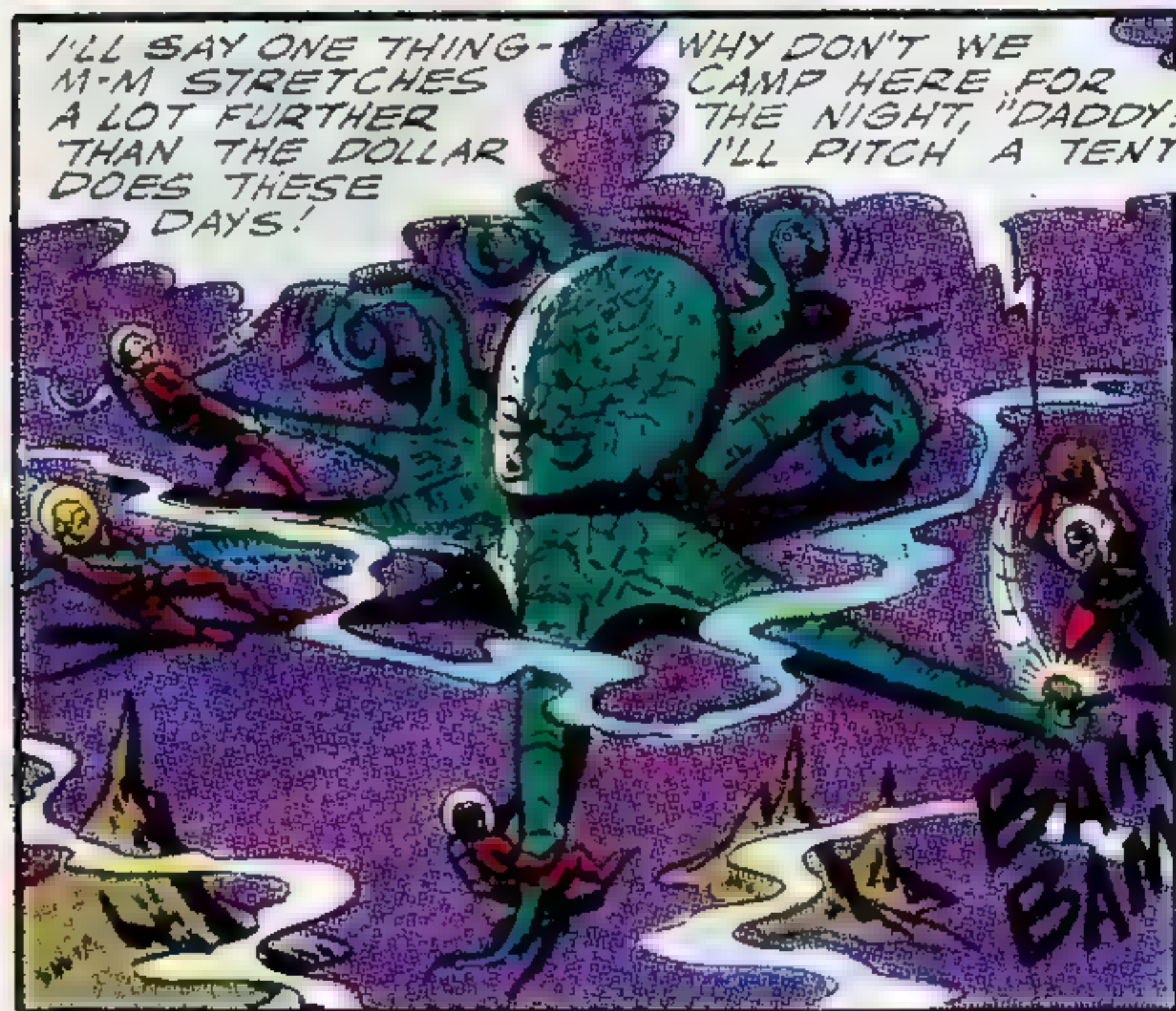
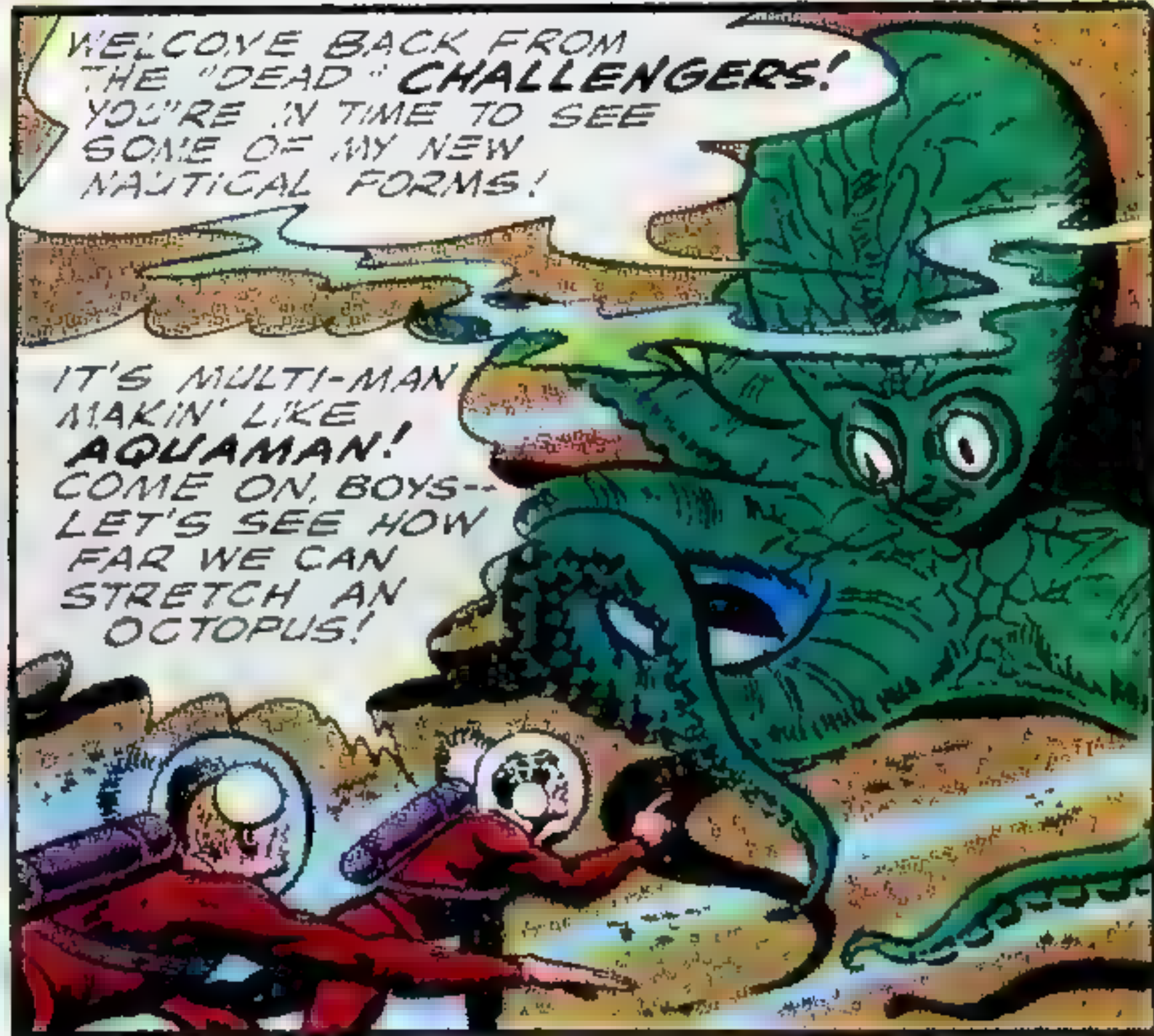
NO SUCH
LUCK! THE
CHAIN
MELTED--
LIKE
BRAND-X
CHOCOLATE
IN A
KID'S FIST!

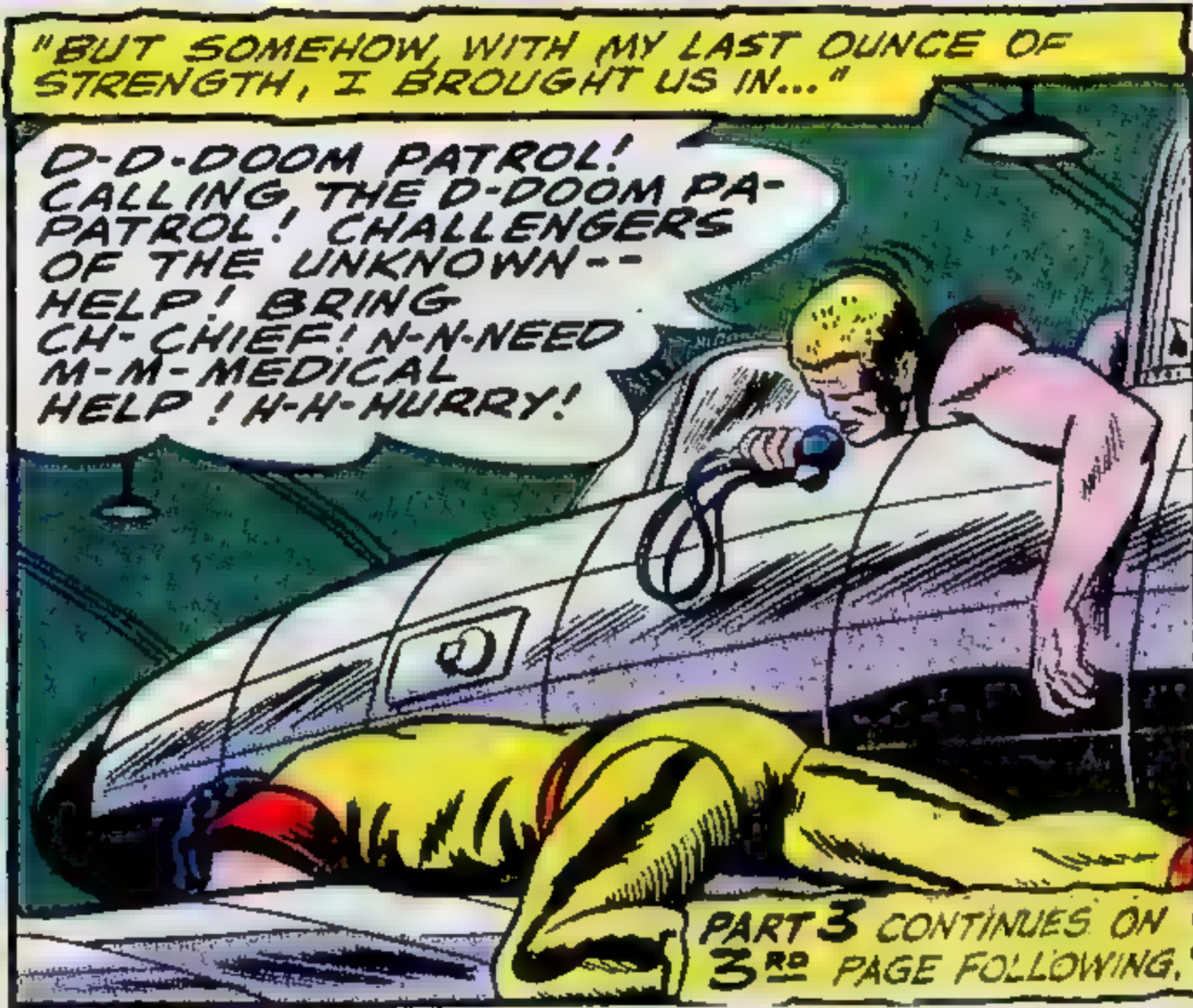
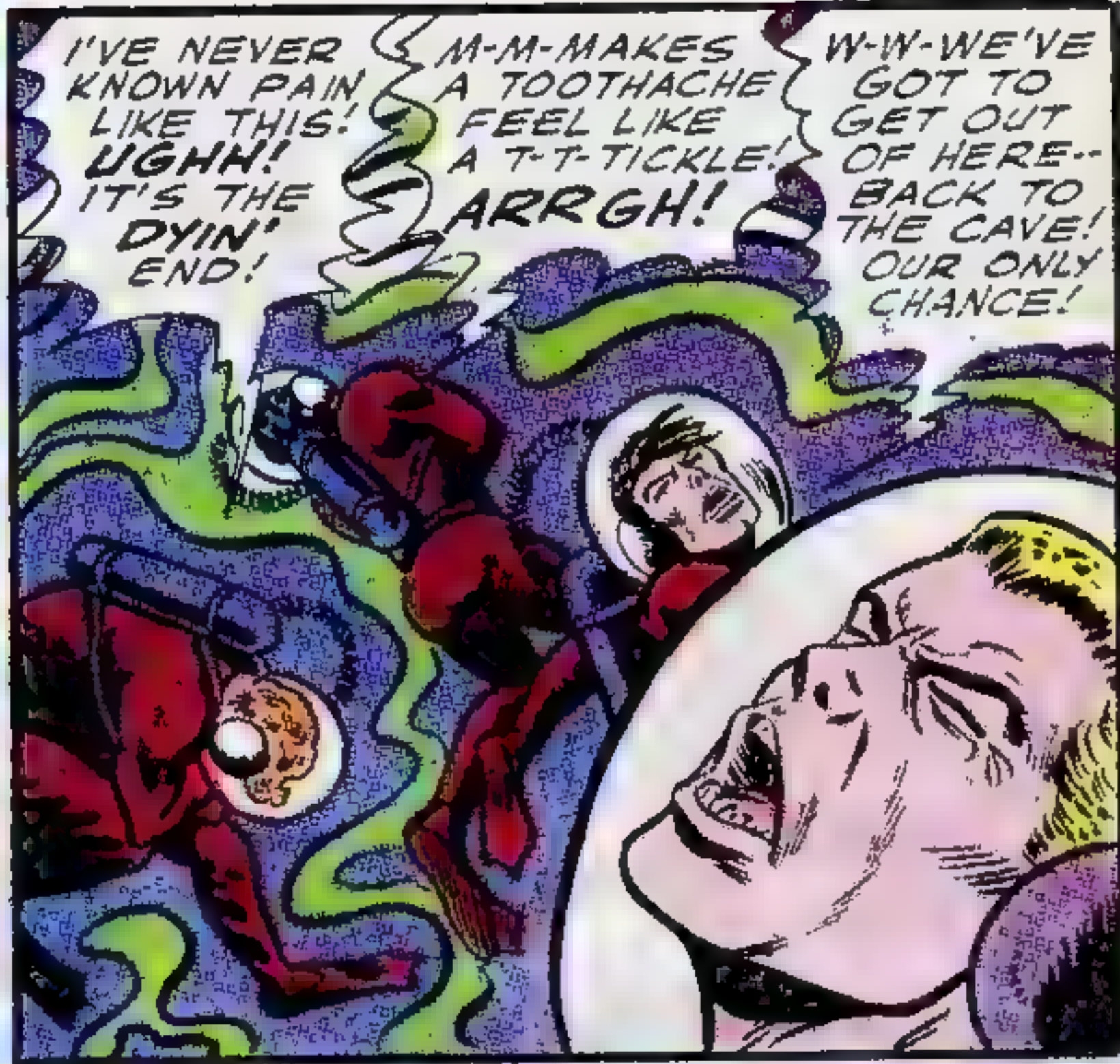
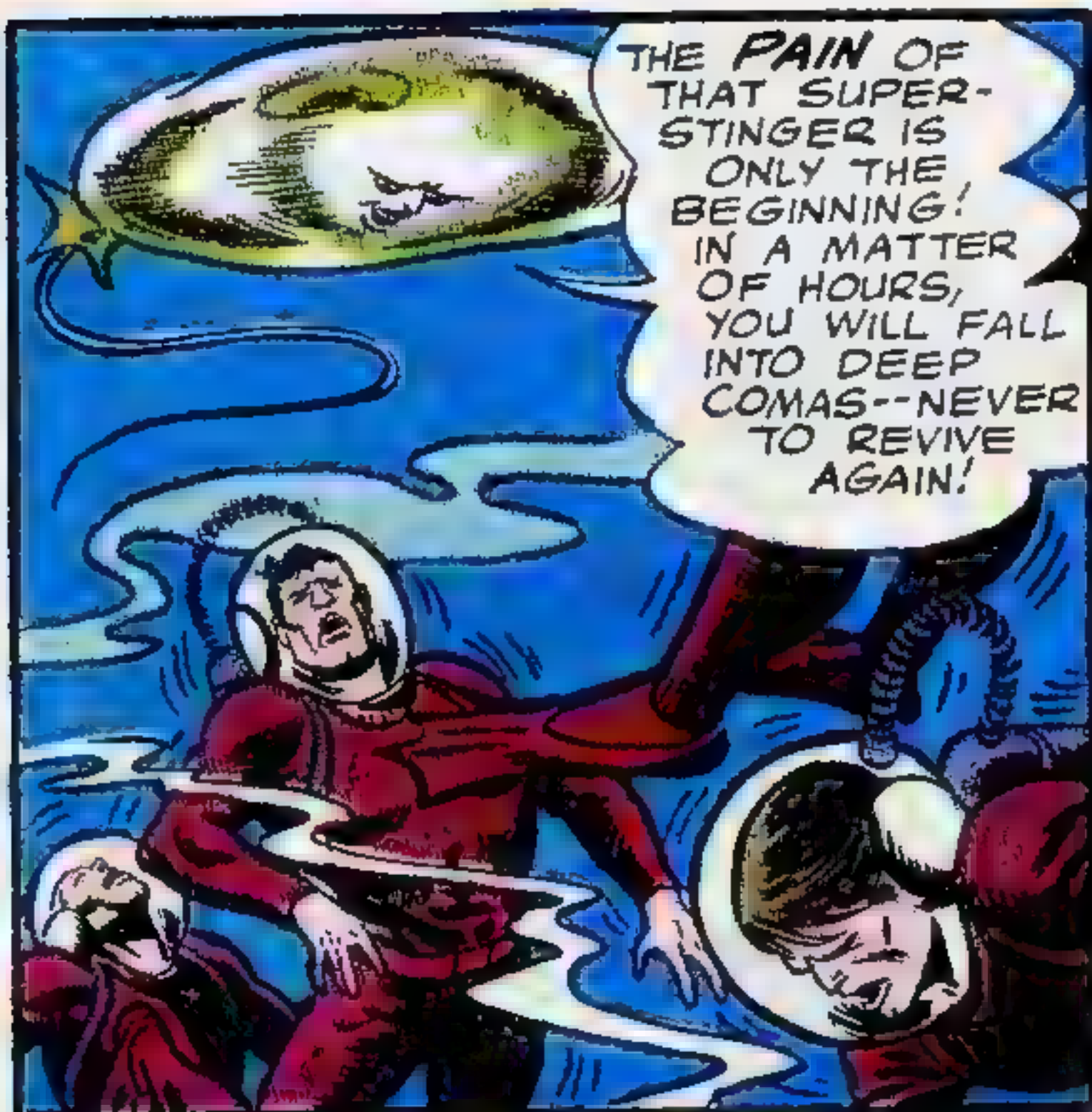


MAN, I NEVER
EXPECTED
TO BE BURIED
IN THE WORLD'S
BIGGEST
BATHTUB--
BUT IT LOOKS
LIKE THIS
IS IT!



HE--HE'S FLOATING
UPWARD! HE'S
BEING PUSHED
UP THERE BY HIS
OWN BUBBLES!
HA-HA-HA!





You are invited to join the **JUSTICE LEAGUE!**

GREEN ARROW WANTED IN! **THE ATOM JUMPED AT THE CHANCE!** **HAWKMAN FLIPPED!**



BUT WHEN THE WORLD'S MOST PRIZED OFFER IS EXTENDED TO THE SUPER-HERO OF THE HOUR--

"METAMORPHO SAYS NO!"
How Come? THE ACTION-PACKED, SUSPENSE-FILLED OFFER IS REVEALED IN...





UOY--GNIDAER RUOY CIMOC SGAM!

I ETAH **NAMREPUS** DNA LLA SIH
CD SLAP! OS M'I GNINRAW UOY--
T'NOD EKAT EGATNAVDA FO **S'CD**
 CIFIRRET REFFO--**EVLEWT** SEUSSI
 FO **NOITCA SCIMOC** ROF EHT
 ECIRP FO **NET--DEREVEILED** OT
 RUOY EMOH **EROFEB** YEHT
 HCAER EHT SDNATS! OS TAHW FI
 UOY EVAS **YTNEWTSTNEC** NO A
 RAEY FO SLLIRHT HTIW **NAMREPUS**
 DNA **LRIGREPUS?** OS TAHW FI UOY
 NAC TEG EHT EMAS LAED NEHW UOY
 EBIRCSBUS OT REHTO **CD** SGAM?
T'NOD OD TI!

BETTER SUBSCRIBE QUICK, FANS--
 BEFORE I TRICK **MR. MXYZPTLK** INTO
 SAYING HIS **NAME** BACKWARDS--AND
 THIS OFFER VANISHES WITH HIM!



NATIONAL COMICS

575 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022

Dept. AC 10 ISSUES OF ONE OF YOUR FAVORITE MAGAZINES ONLY \$1. (Regular Price \$1.20)

SAVE EVEN MORE! ☐ Check here if you prefer to subscribe for 20 issues at only \$2. (You save 40¢!)

Check the boxes below for the subscriptions you want.

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ ARMY AT WAR | ☐ WONDER WOMAN |
| ☐ CHALLENGERS | ☐ SUGAR & SPIKE |
| ☐ BATMAN | ☐ UNEXPECTED |
| ☐ FLASH | ☐ ST. SP. WAR STORIES |
| ☐ DOOM PATROL | ☐ LOIS LANE |
| ☐ ATOM | ☐ METAL MEN |
| ☐ BOB HOPE | ☐ BRAVE & BOLD |
| ☐ BLACKHAWK | ☐ ACTION |
| ☐ MYSTERY IN SPACE | ☐ DETECTIVE |
| ☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE | ☐ ADVENTURE |
| ☐ HAWKMAN | ☐ STRANGE ADVENTURES |
| ☐ G.I. COMBAT | ☐ FIGHTING FORCES |
| ☐ WORLD'S FINEST | ☐ FOX & CROW |
| ☐ SUPERMAN | |

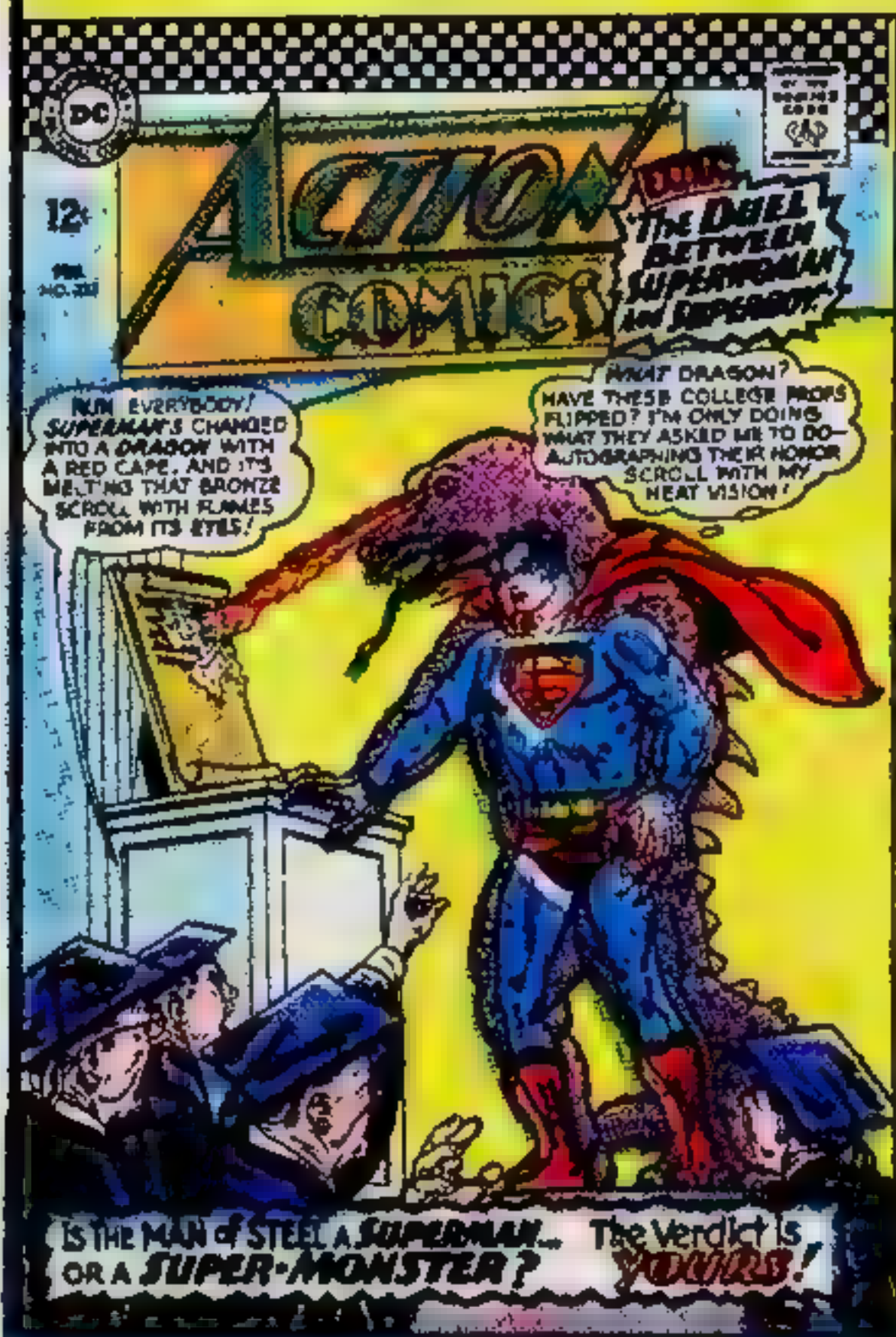
(Offer good in U.S. and Canada only. For Canadian postage, add 13¢ on each 10 issue subscription; 25¢ on each 20 issue subscription.)

I enclose \$_____ (No stamps or coins, please.)

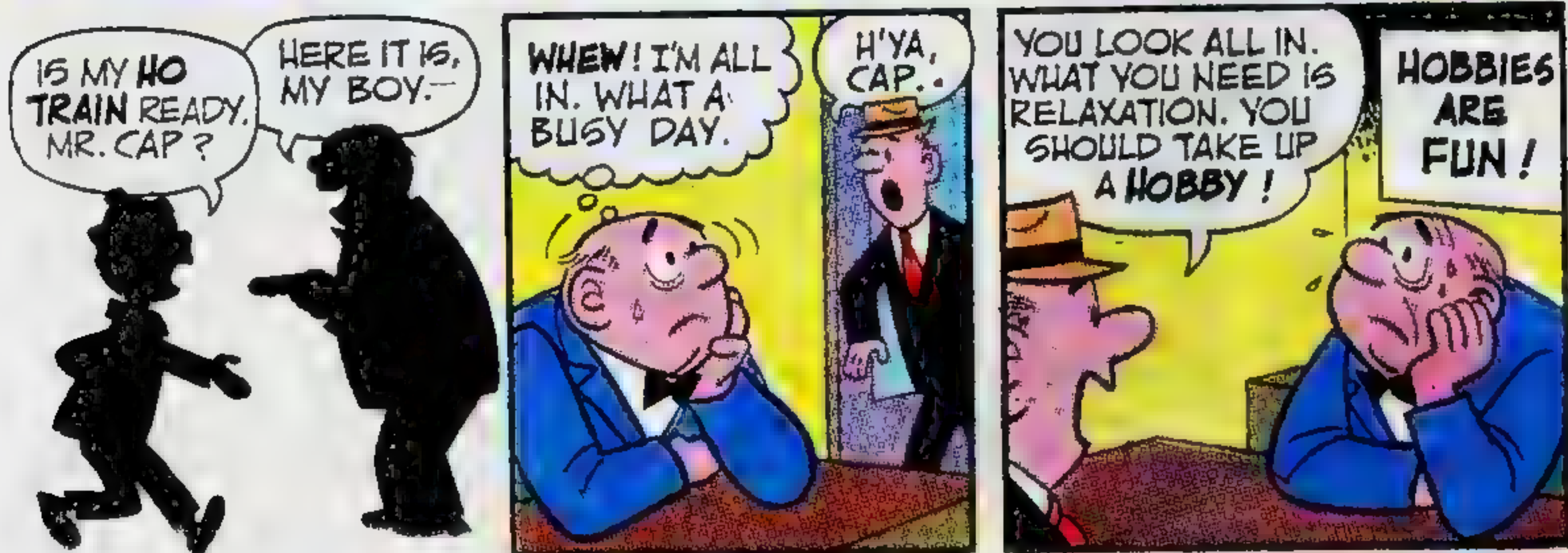
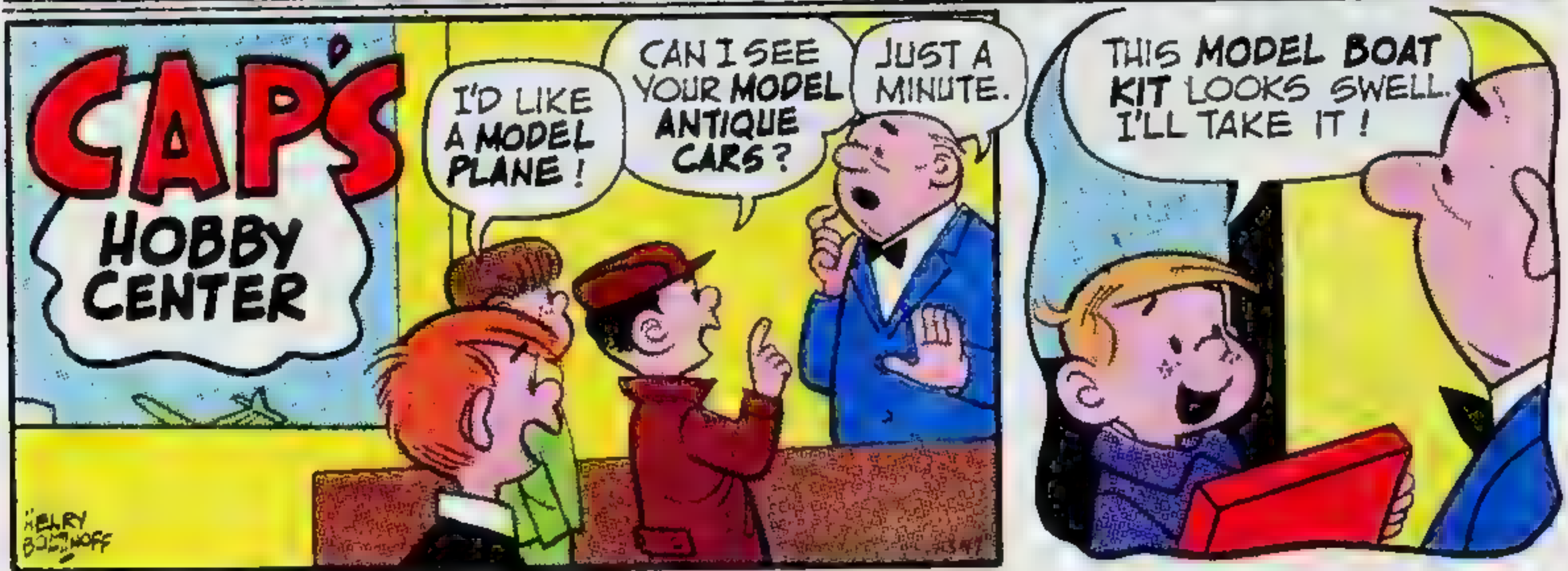
Name _____
 (Please print name clearly)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zone or Zip # _____



Definitely
Coming... **The**
BRAND-NEW
LOOK!
"Go-Go" checks **from DC**

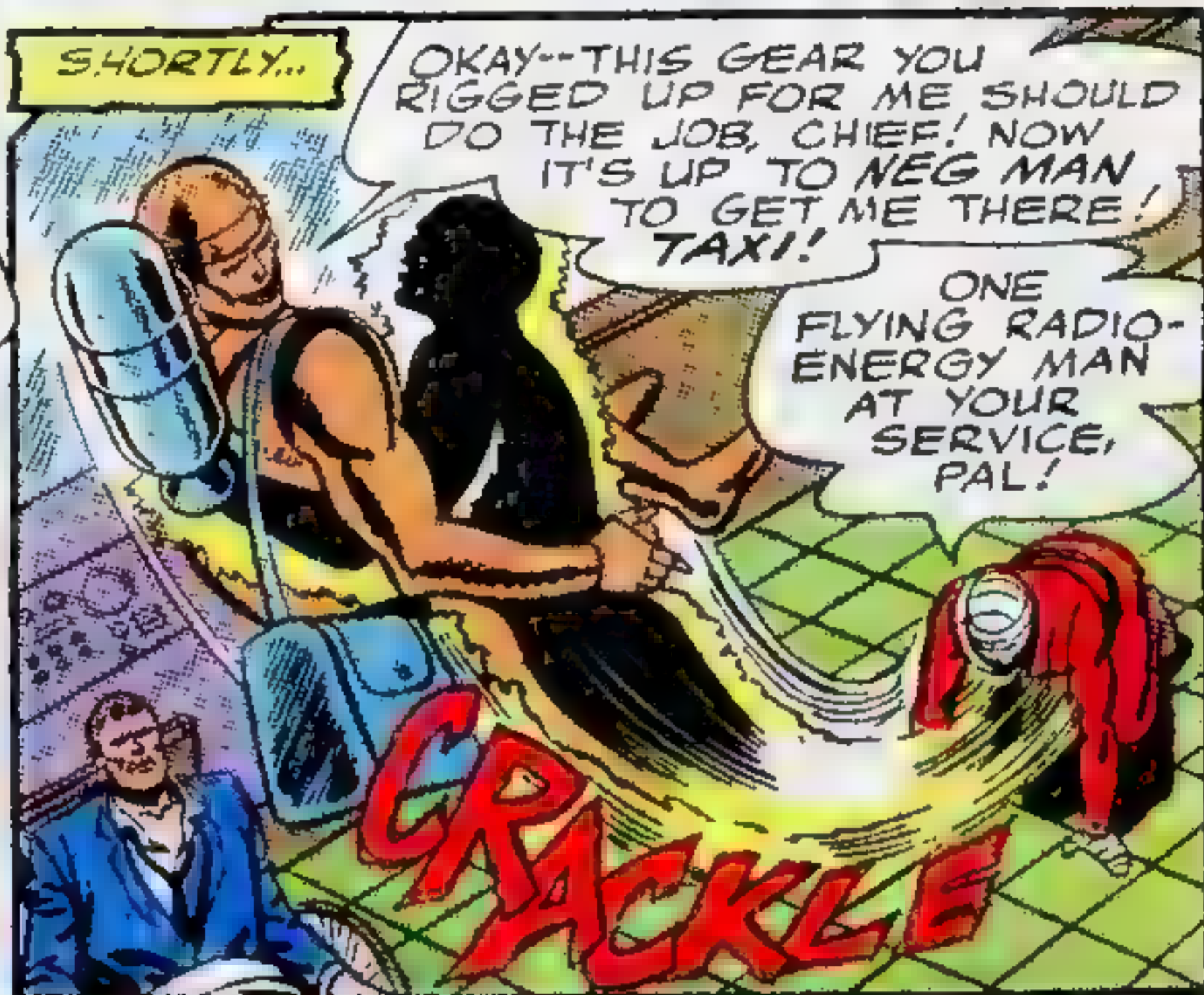


PART 3 THE BATTLE OF THE FEMALE TITANS



NOW IT'S ALL CLEAR. ACE AND GAN--INCLUDING THE TREATMENT TO SAVE YOUR LIVES! BUT ROBOTMAN MUST FILL A "PRESCRIPTION" FIRST!

THE WAY YOU SAY THAT--I DON'T THINK I'M GONNA LIKE THE "DRUG STORE" YOU'RE SENDING ME TO!



SHORTLY...

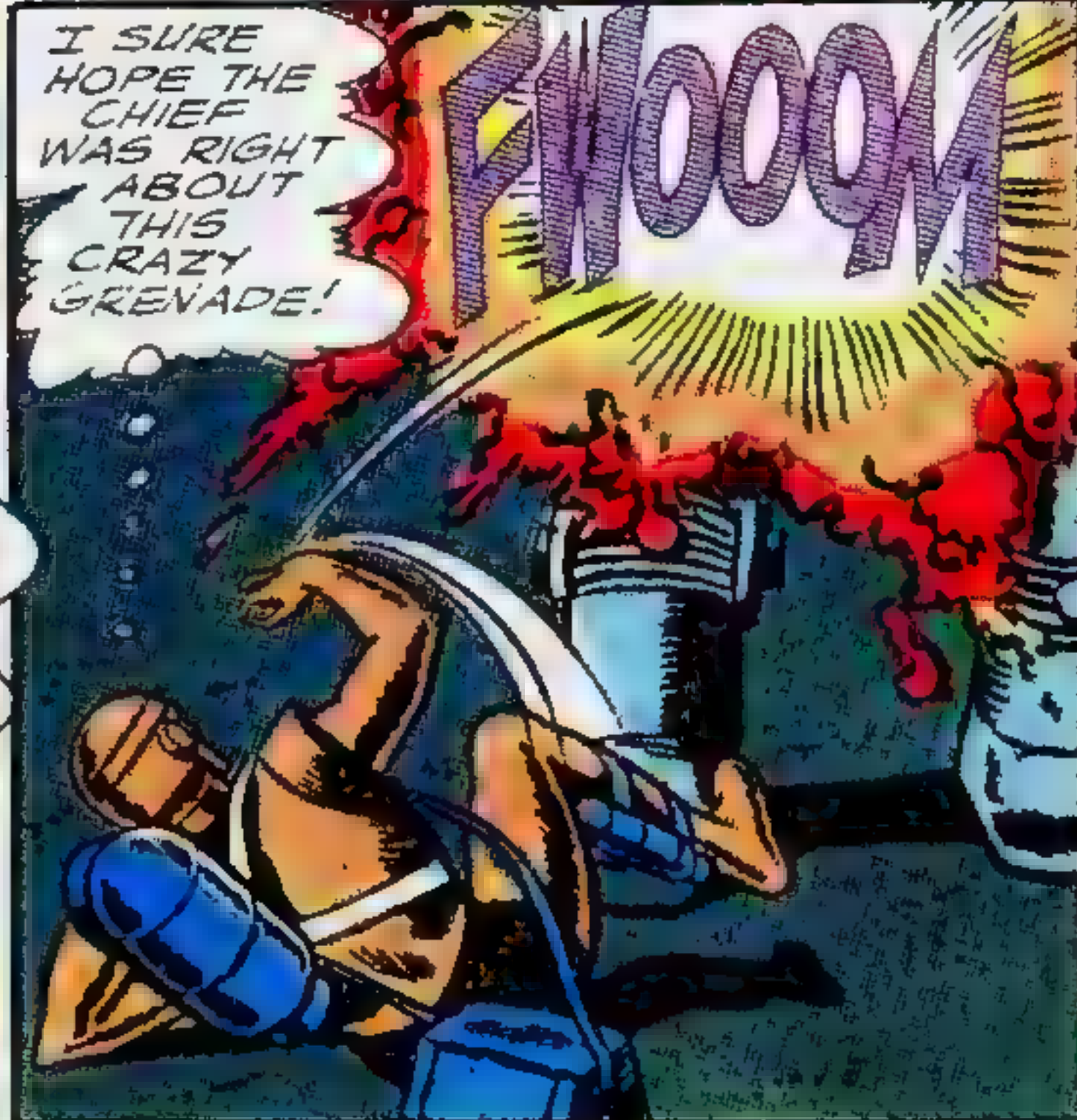
OKAY--THIS GEAR YOU RIGGED UP FOR ME SHOULD DO THE JOB, CHIEF! NOW IT'S UP TO NEG MAN TO GET ME THERE! TAXI!

ONE FLYING RADIO-ENERGY MAN AT YOUR SERVICE, PAL!

SOON, AFTER ROBOTMAN SPLASHES INTO THE ENEMY'S NEST...

DID YOU THINK YOUR MISERABLE-EXCUSE-FOR-A-ROBOT-BODY COULD OVERCOME AN ELECTRONIC ATLAS LIKE ME?

IF THERE'S ANYTHING I HATE, IT'S A SHOWOFF! AND PLEASE DON'T BEND THE MATERIAL! I JUST GOT IT BACK FROM THE BLACKSMITH!

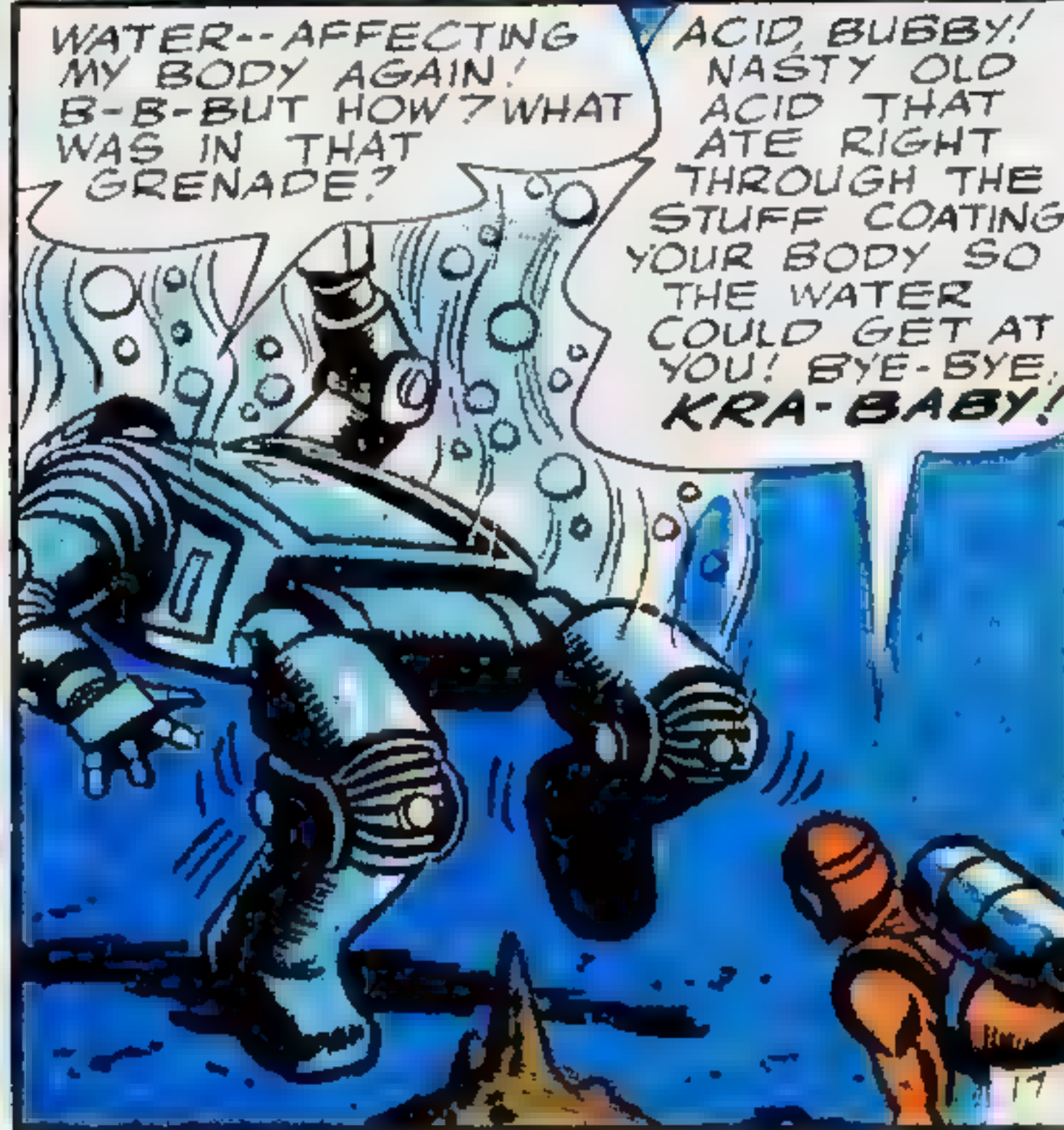


I SURE HOPE THE CHIEF WAS RIGHT ABOUT THIS CRAZY GRENADE!



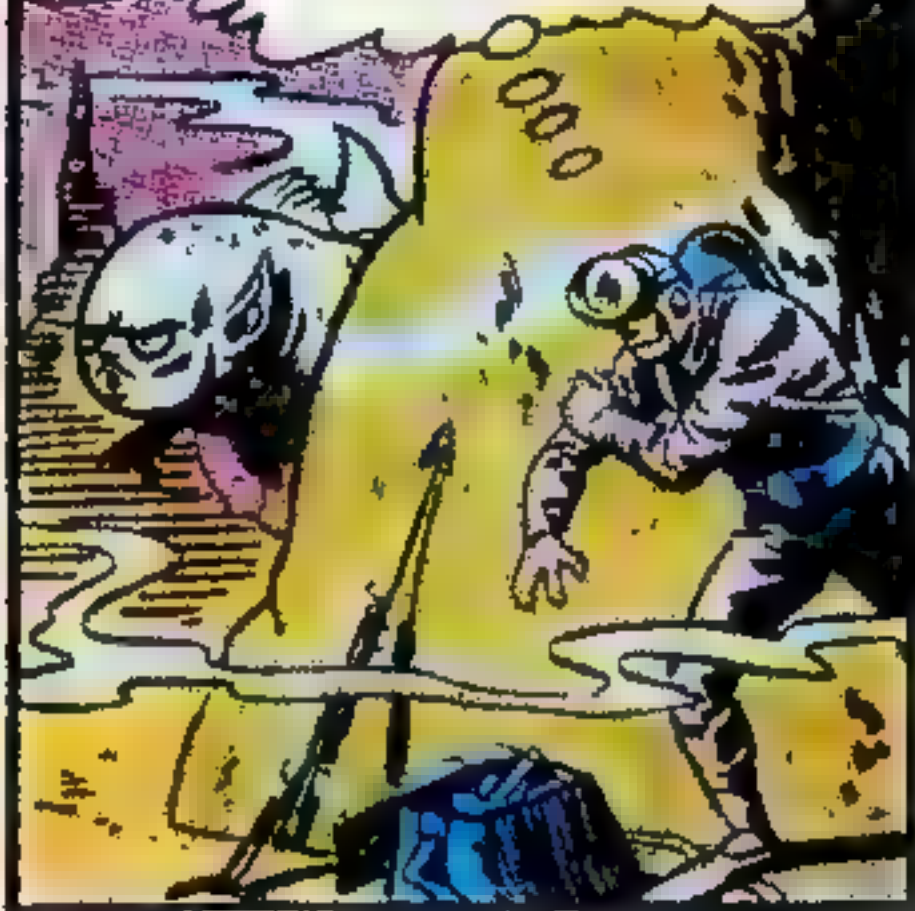
WATER--AFFECTING MY BODY AGAIN! B-B-BUT HOW? WHAT WAS IN THAT GRENADE?

ACID, BUBBY! NASTY OLD ACID THAT ATE RIGHT THROUGH THE STUFF COATING YOUR BODY SO THE WATER COULD GET AT YOU! BYE-BYE, KRA-BABY!

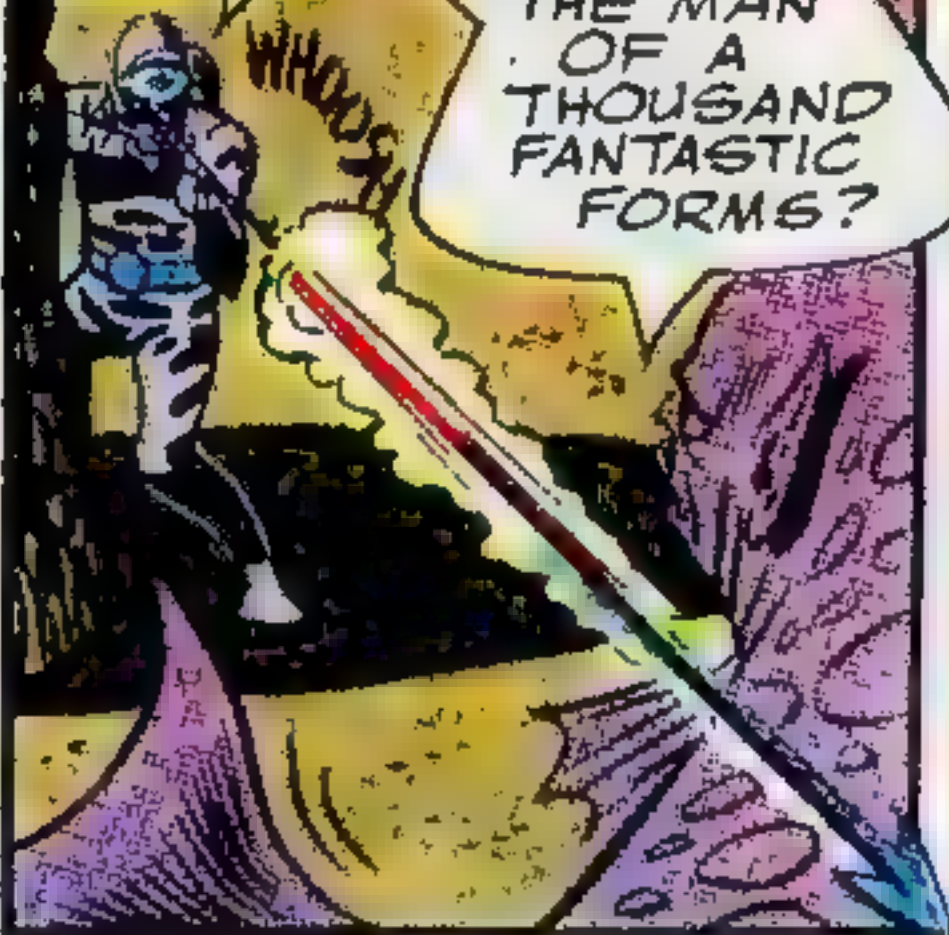


SWIFTLY, THE ROBOT-
WITH-A-HUMAN-BRAIN
REMOVES SOME GEAR
FROM HIS PACK, THEN...

GOT TO GET INTO THIS
SCUBA RIG BEFORE
MULTI-MAN SHOWS UP!
IF HE KNOWS I'M
ROBOTMAN, THE
CHIEF'S GAG WON'T
WORK!



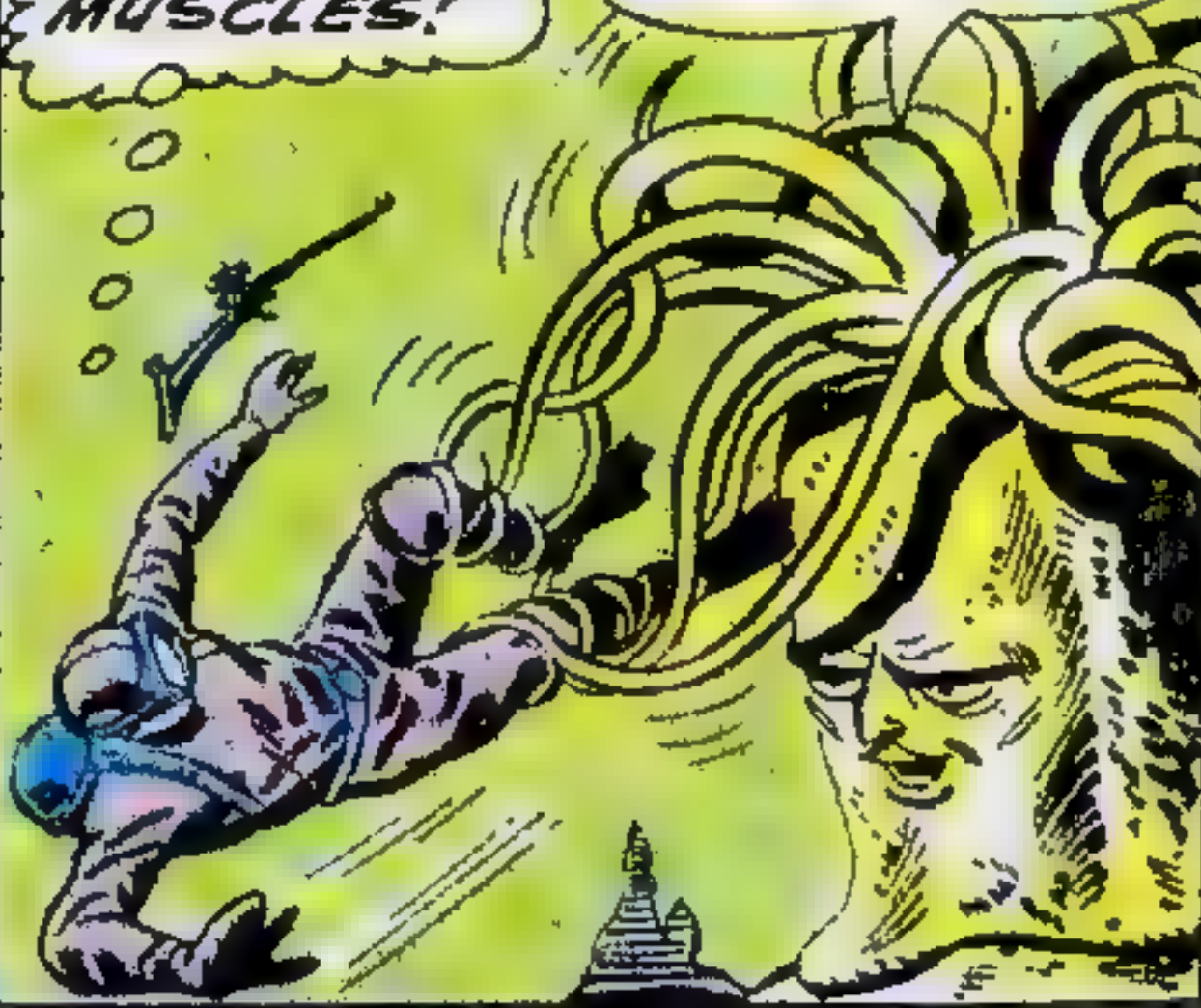
GREETINGS,
FAT-HEAD!
THAT WAS
JUST A
WARNING
SHOT!
THE NEXT
ONE IS
FOR
REAL!



YOU IDIOT!
I DON'T
KNOW WHO
YOU ARE,
BUT YOU'VE
JUST
SIGNED
YOUR DEATH
WARRANT!
DIDN'T YOU
KNOW I'M
THE MAN
OF A
THOUSAND
FANTASTIC
FORMS?

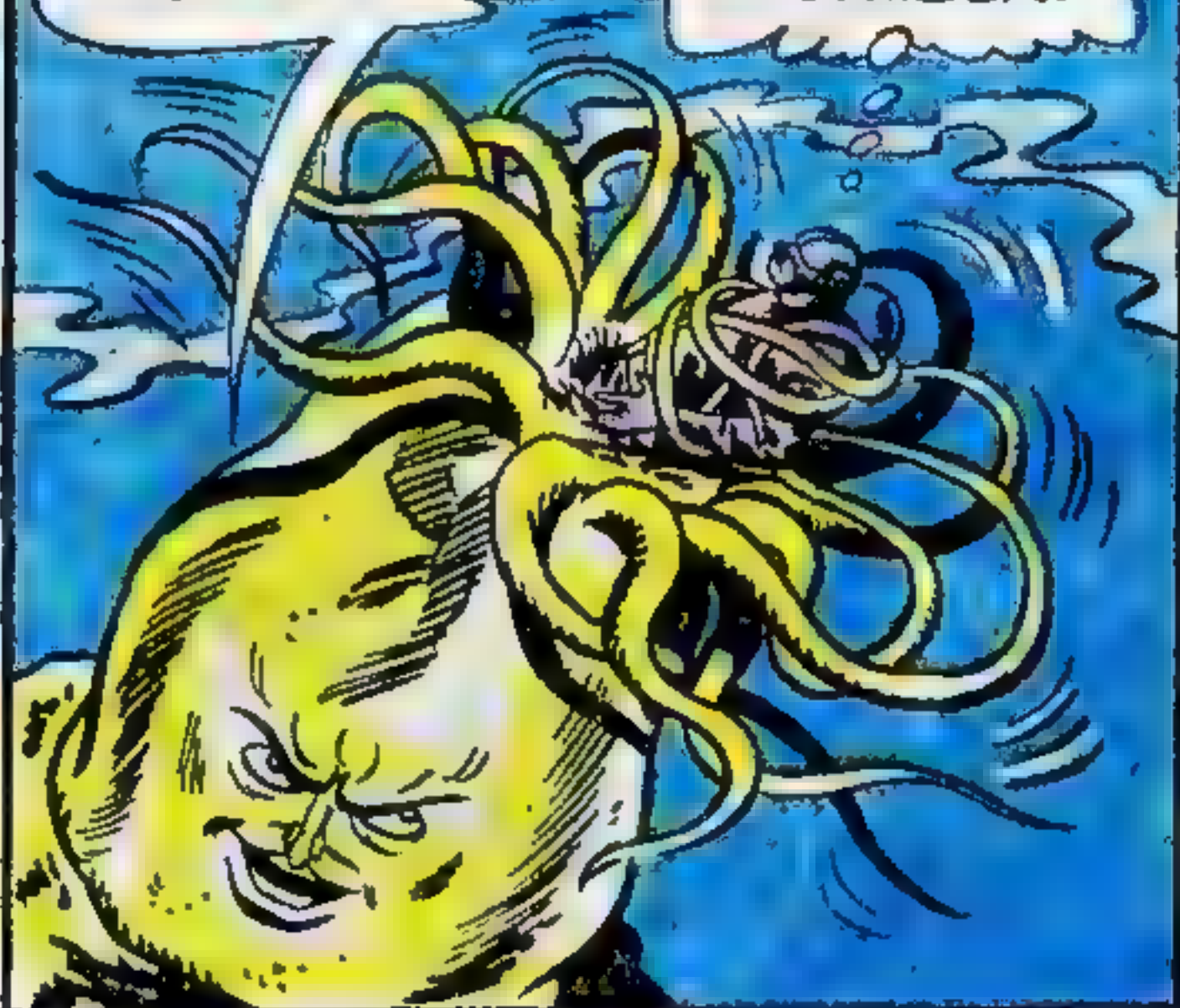
OOPS! THAT'S
NOT WHAT I
HOPED HE'D
CHANGE TO!
A FIELD OF
SOGGY
CELERY--
ONLY
WITH
MUSCLES!

A CHILDISH
LESSON IN
MARINE BIO-
LOGY! AS A
GIANT SEA
ANEMONE, I
CAPTURE YOU
WITH MY
TENDRILS--

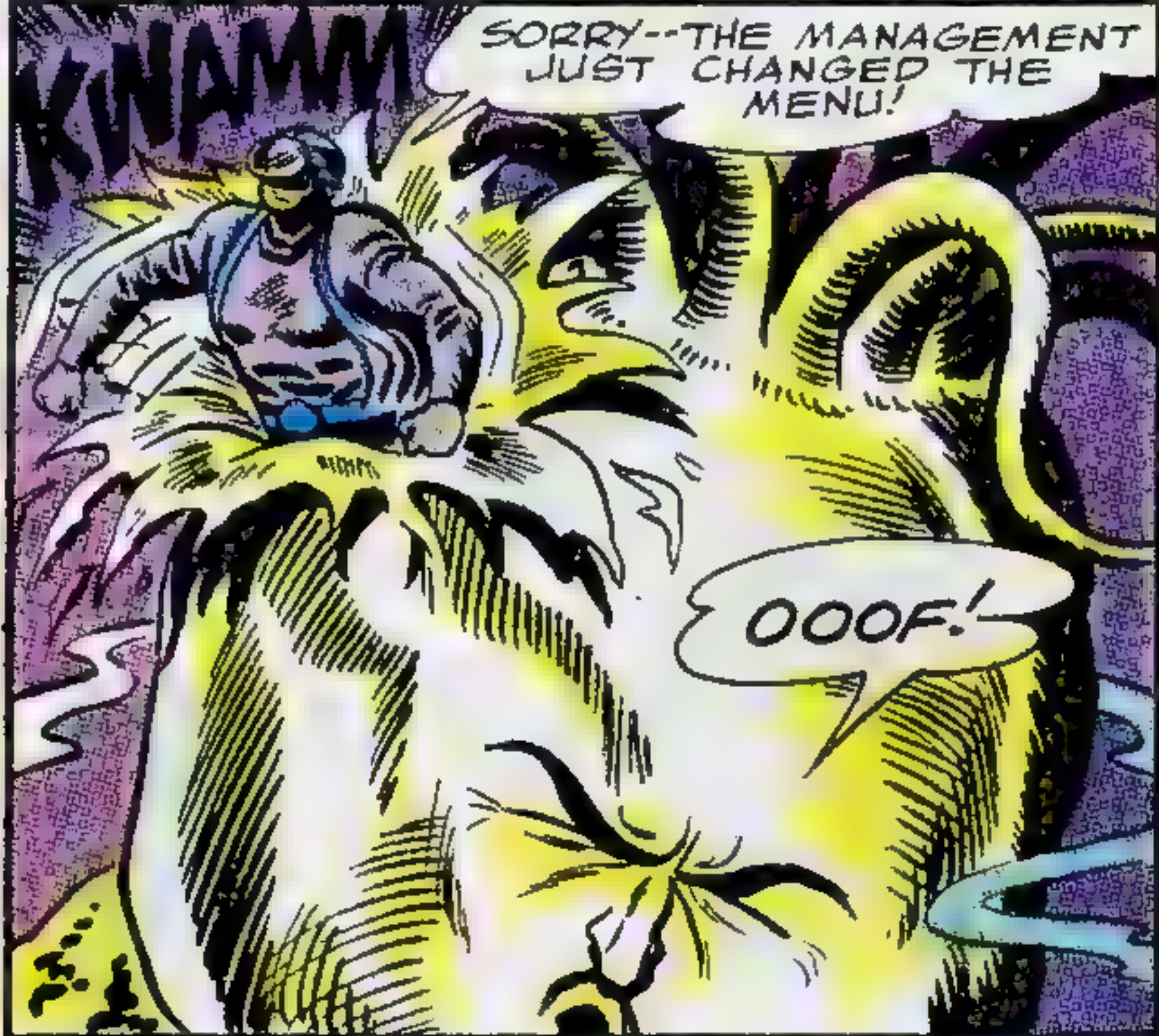


--AND SWALLOW
YOU WHOLE!
THE ANEMONE
IS NOT A
DISCRIMINATING
EATER!

HOLY COW! I'M
GONNA BE A
BLUEPLATE
SPECIAL FOR
A CANNIBAL
CUCUMBER!



SORRY--THE MANAGEMENT
JUST CHANGED THE
MENU!

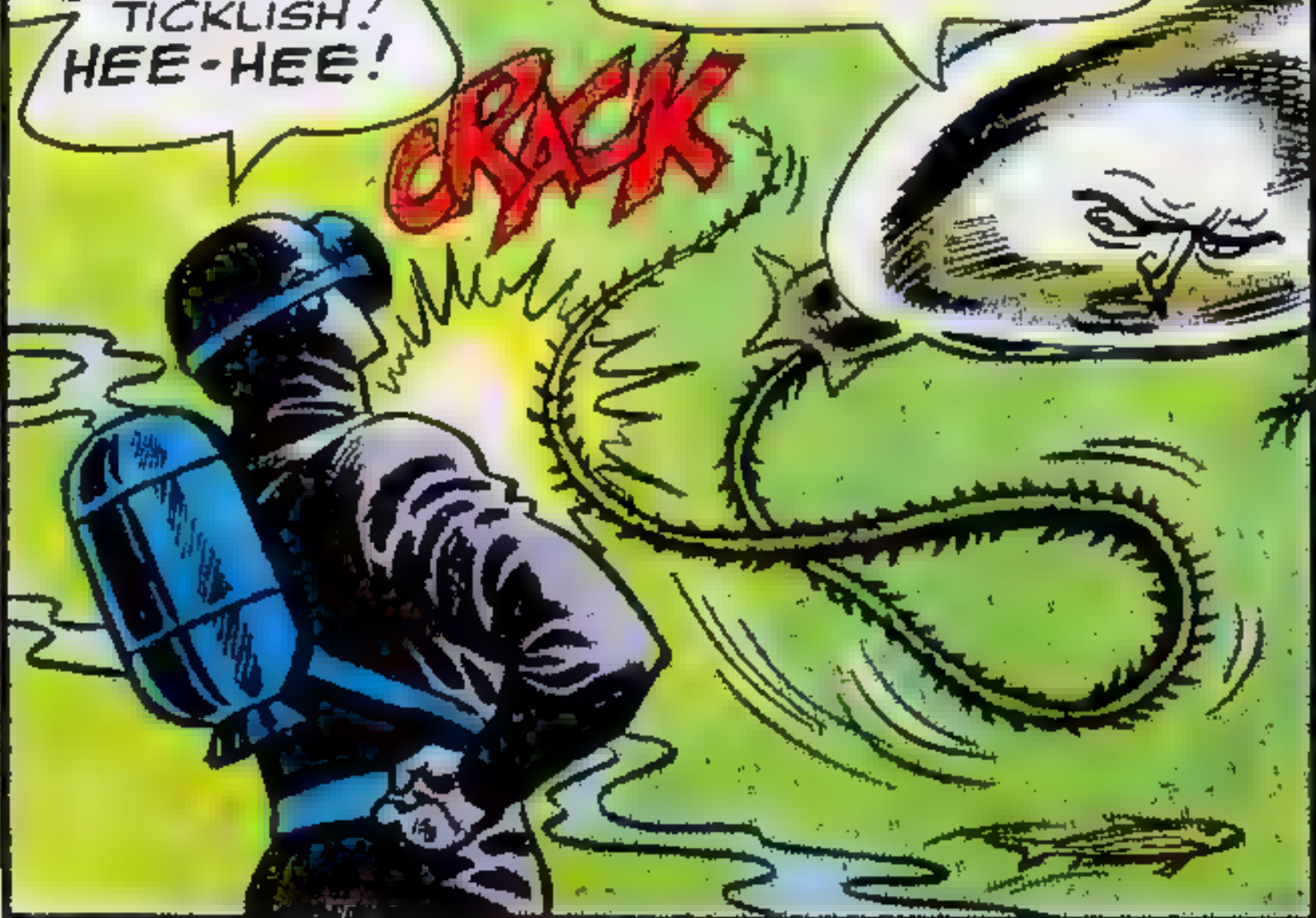


OOOF!

BUT MULTI-MAN SWITCHES TO A GIANT
JELLYFISH...

HEE-HEE-
HEE!
STOP! I'M
TICKLISH!
HEE-HEE!

IMPOSSIBLE! THAT STINGER
WOULD PARALYZE ANY
NORMAL MAN!



CRACK

ROBOTMAN!

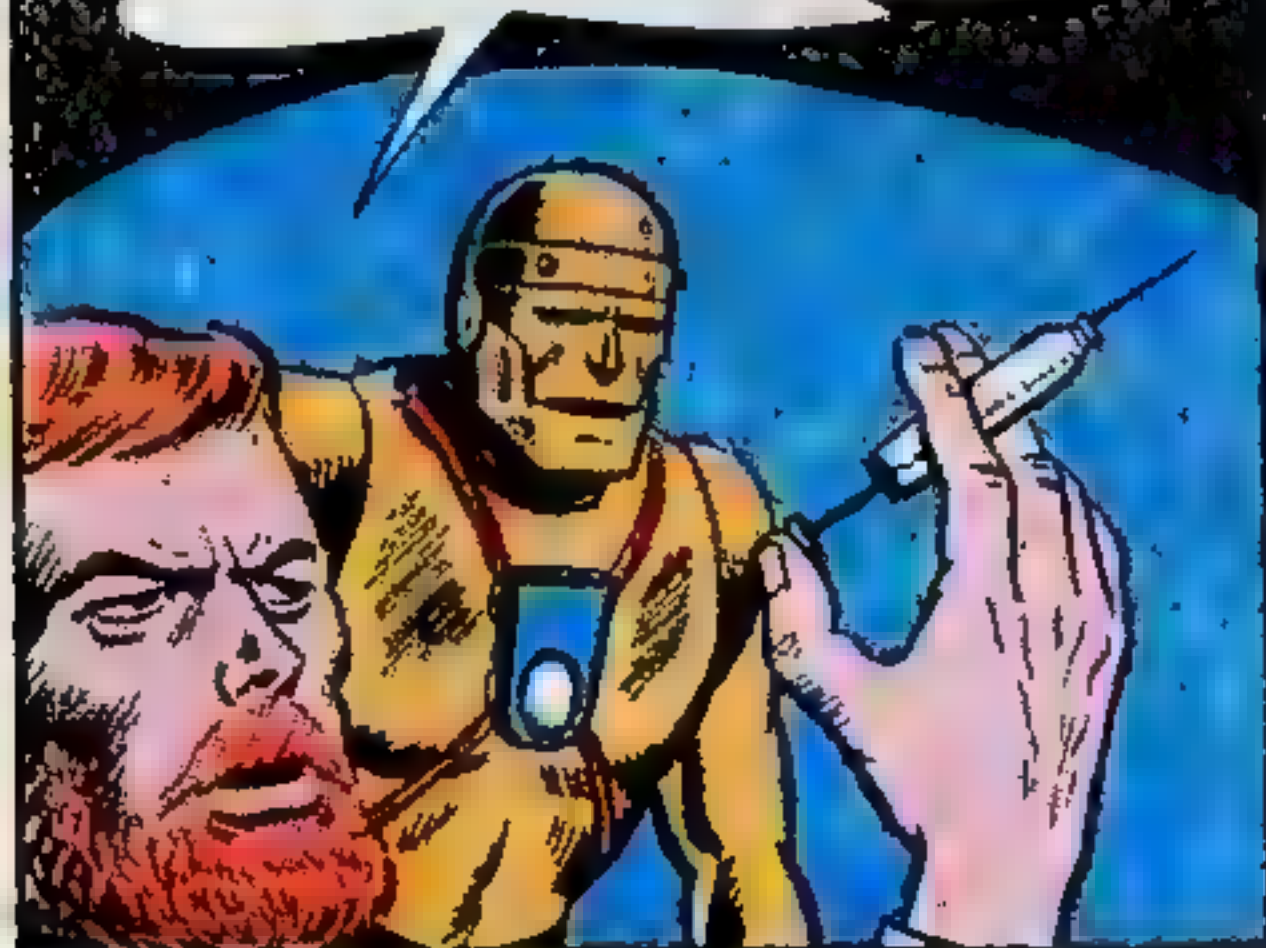
IT AIN'T MARY
POPPINS! NOW
I'M GONNA TAKE
ME A PIECE OF
YOUR STINGER
TO PRESS IN MY
MEMORY BOOK!



CRACK

DESPERATE HOURS LATER...

ANALYSIS OF **ROBOTMAN'S** ANEMONE SAMPLES SHOWED THE POISONS RESEMBLE **CLOSTRIDIUM TETANI**--THE **BACILLUS** THAT CAUSES **LOCKJAW!** SO WE'LL TRY SOME **ANTI-TETANUS**--AND **CROSS OUR FINGERS!**



THE SERUM--AND THE **CROSSED FINGERS**--DO THEIR JOB SWIFTLY...

WHAT'S GOIN' ON HERE, MAN? I'M COLD AS A **BAREFOOT BUGLE BOY** AT **VALLEY FORGE!**

YOU'D BE A LOT COLDER -- AND SIX FEET UNDER--IF WE HADN'T SAVED YOUR **SKINS, ROCK-HEAD!**



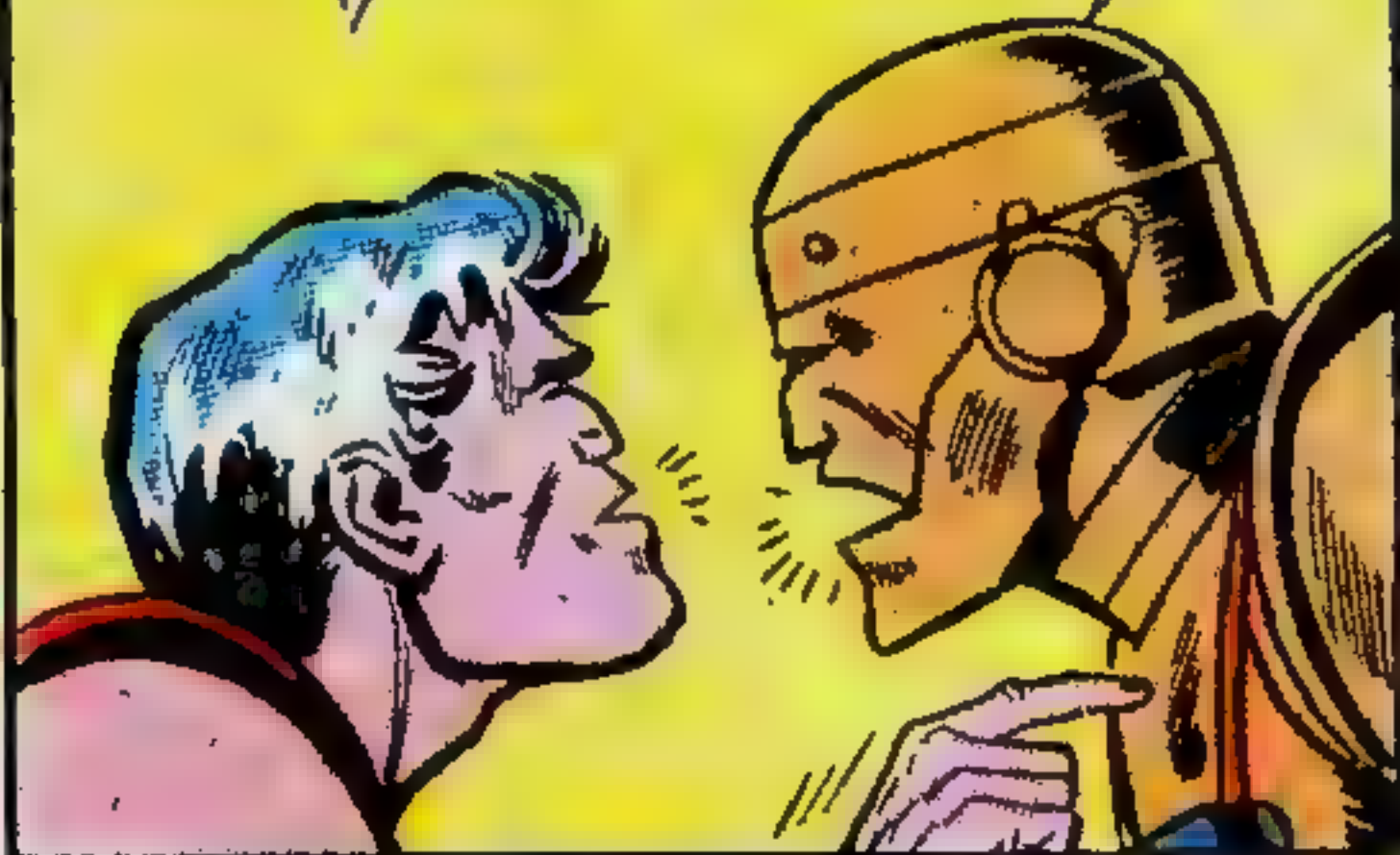
LOOK, YOU REJECT FROM A **SCRAP YARD**, THE **CHALLENGERS** DON'T NEED **NOBODY** TO PULL OUR **COOKIES** OUT OF THE **OVEN!**

"DON'T NEED **NOBODY?**" WHERE'D YOU LEARN THE LANGUAGE, **STONE SKULL?** "MRS MOORE'S **ACADEMY** FOR **KINDERGARTEN DROPOUTS?**"

DON'T BUG ME, YOU WALKING **SARDINE** CAN! I'LL HIT YOU SO HARD--

HOLD IT, CHUM! THAT'S MY **BUDDY** YOU'RE PUSHING AROUND!

WHY LARRY! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU STILL **CARED!**

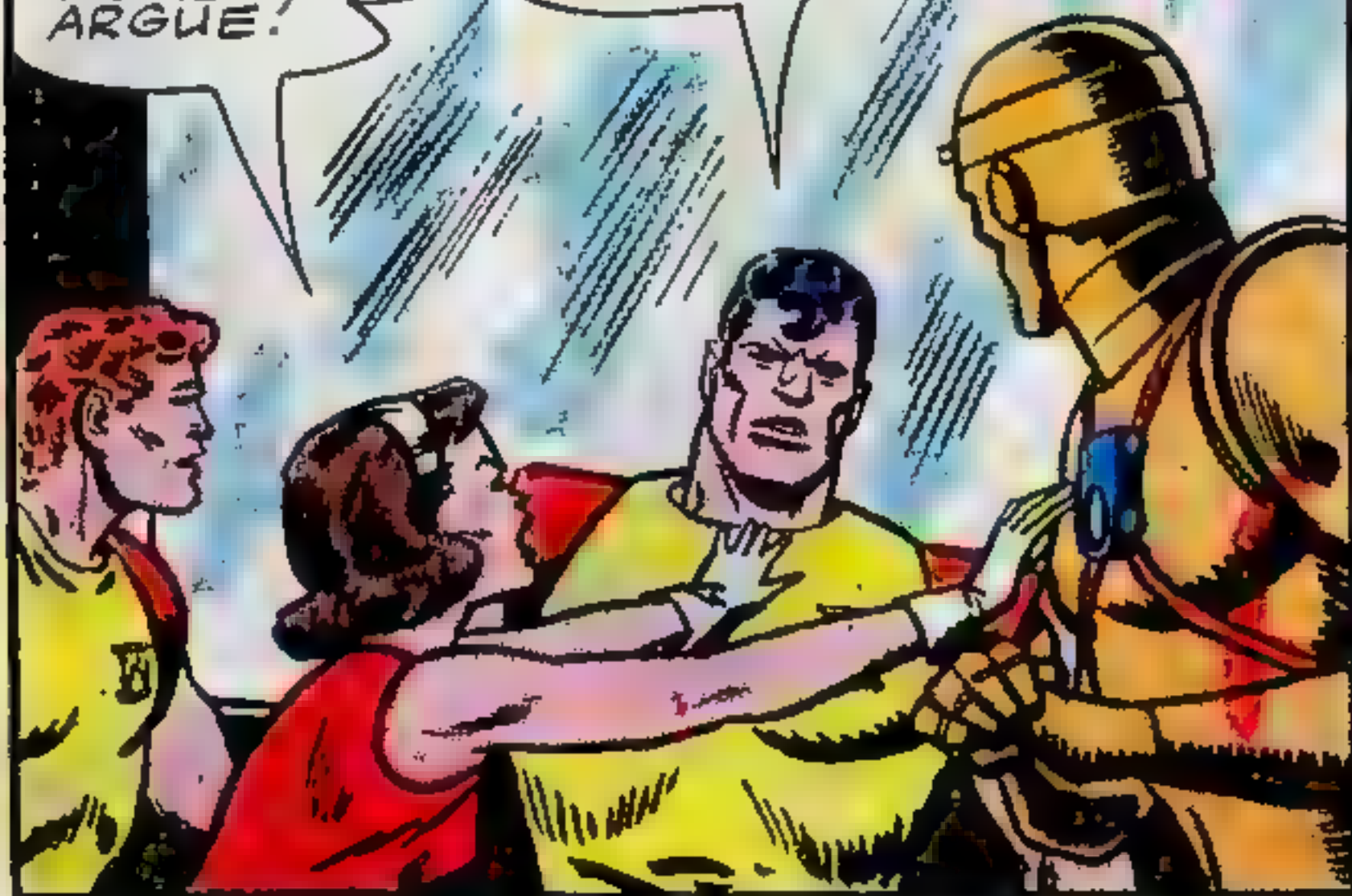


SURE! **NOBODY'S** GONNA RAP YOUR **CORRUGATED CRANIUM--EXCEPT--ME!**

STOP IT, YOU FOOLS! **MULTI-MAN** IS BUILDING AN **OCEAN EMPIRE**, AND ALL YOU CAN DO IS **ARGUE!**

SHE'S RIGHT! I'LL SEE YOU AFTER THE **BALL GAME, IRON PANTS!**

IT'LL BE MY PLEASURE, **BOULDER BRAINS!**

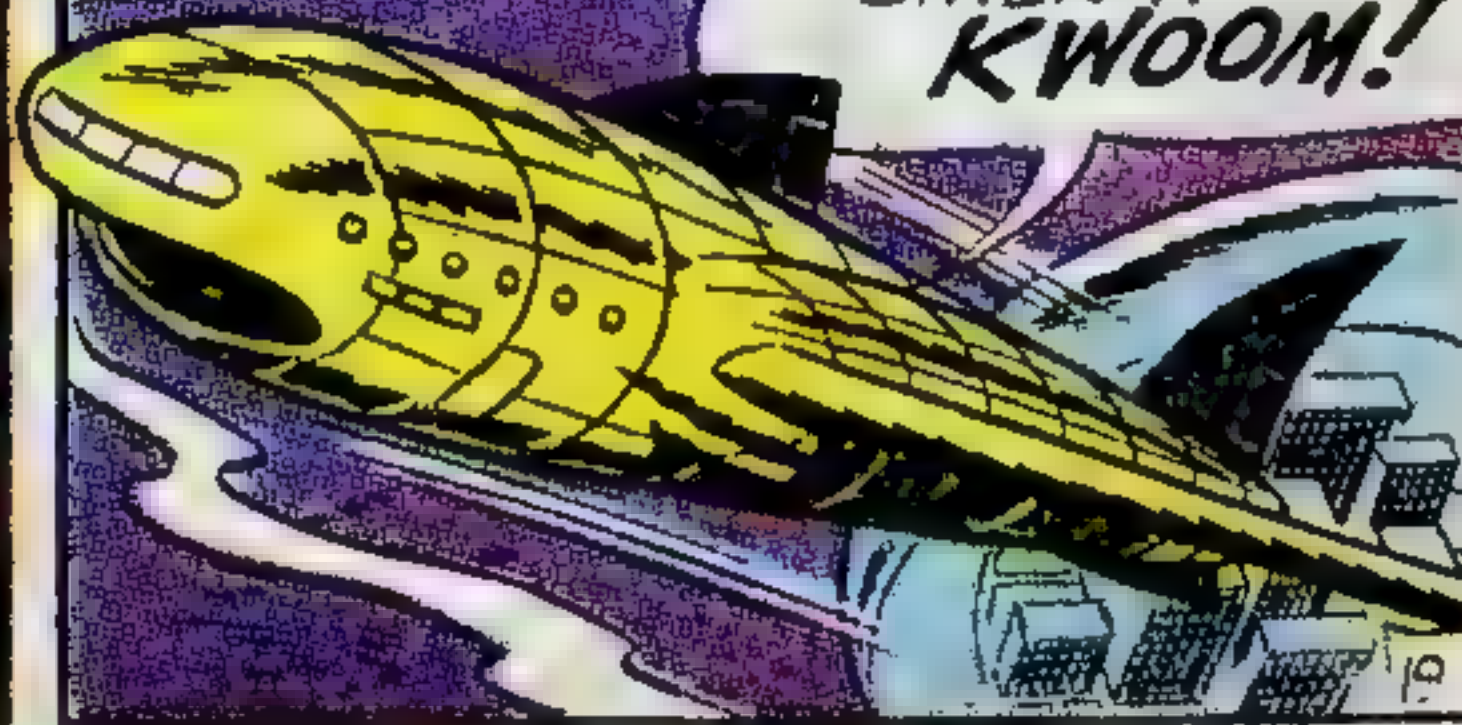


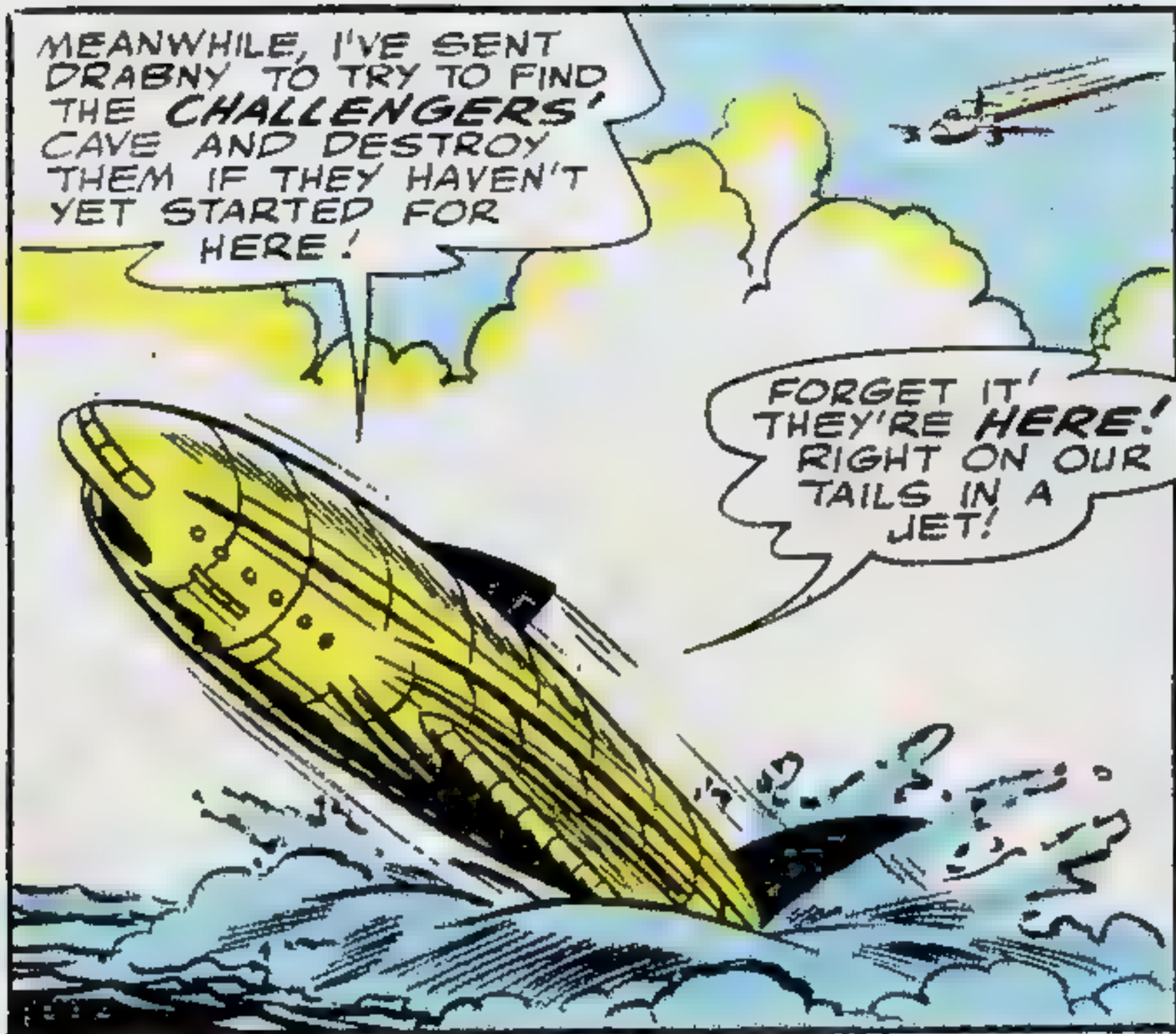
SHORTLY AS AN **INCREDIBLE VEHICLE** ZOOMS UP FROM THE **OCEAN FLOOR...**

M-M, THIS IS **NUTTY!** YOU'RE GIVING UP THAT **OCEAN BASE** WE BROKE OUR **BACKS** TO BUILD?

I CAN ALWAYS BUILD ANOTHER! BUT I **CAN'T** ALWAYS TRAP THE **CHALLENGERS**--AND THE **DOOM PATROL**--IN ONE **STROKE!** I **BOOBY-TRAPPED** THE **BASE!** THE **MOMENT** THEY ENTER IT--

KWOOM!





MEANWHILE, I'VE SENT DRABNY TO TRY TO FIND THE **CHALLENGERS'** CAVE AND DESTROY THEM IF THEY HAVEN'T YET STARTED FOR HERE!

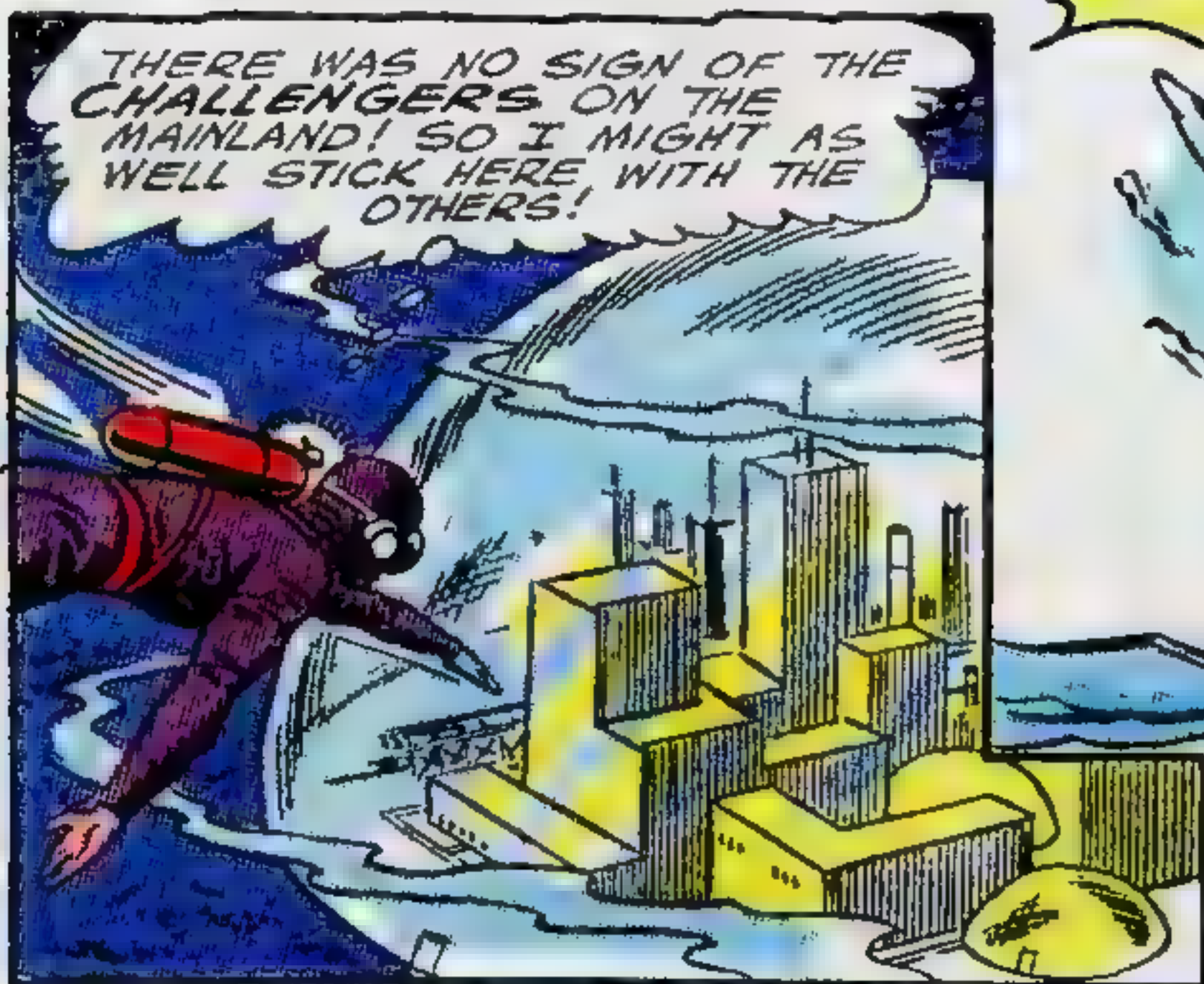
FORGET IT! THEY'RE **HERE!** RIGHT ON OUR TAILS IN A JET!



DIG THAT CRAZY BUCK ROGERS RIG THEY'RE FLYING! WE'LL NEVER CATCH UP WITH THAT ZOOMER!

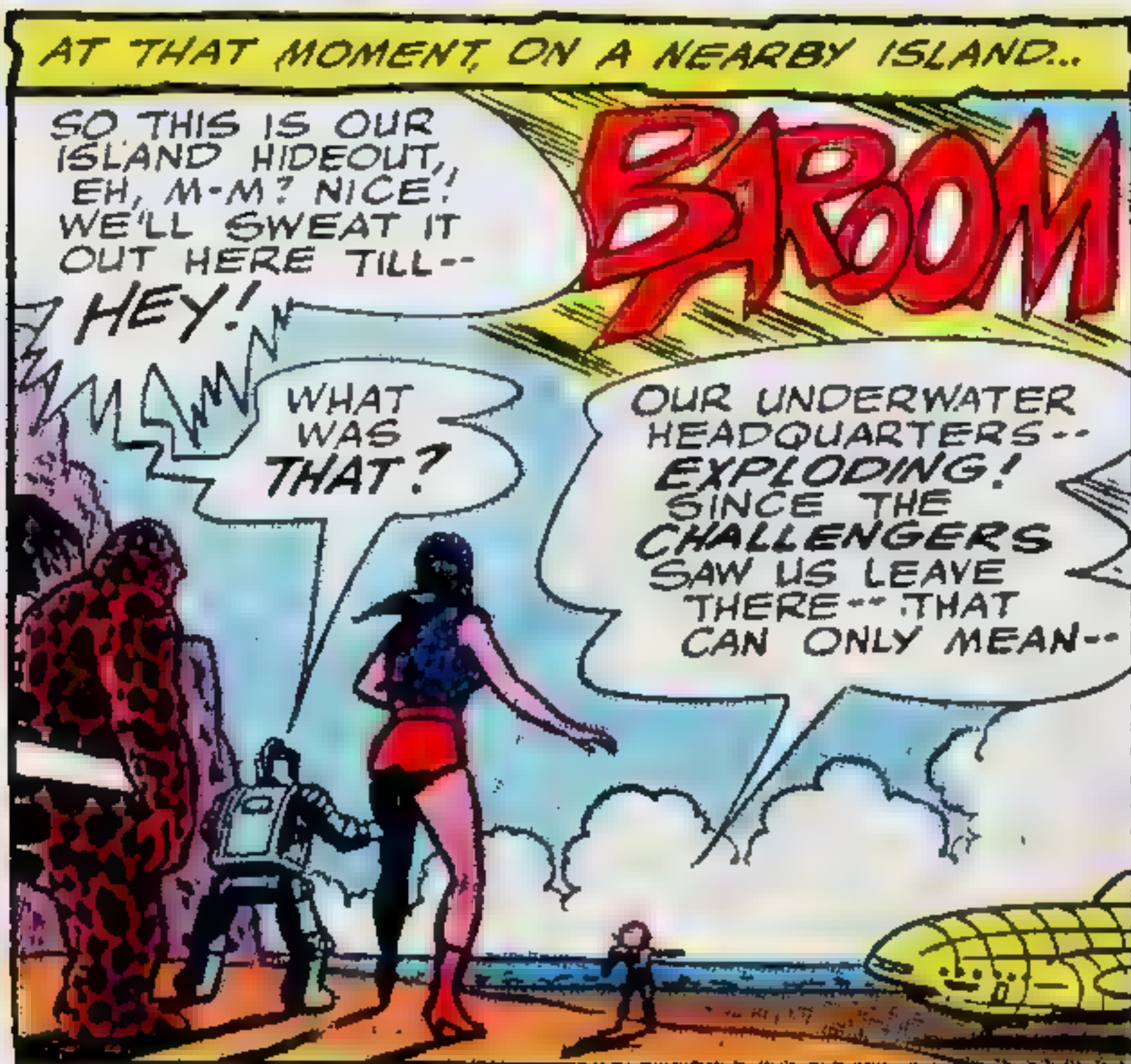
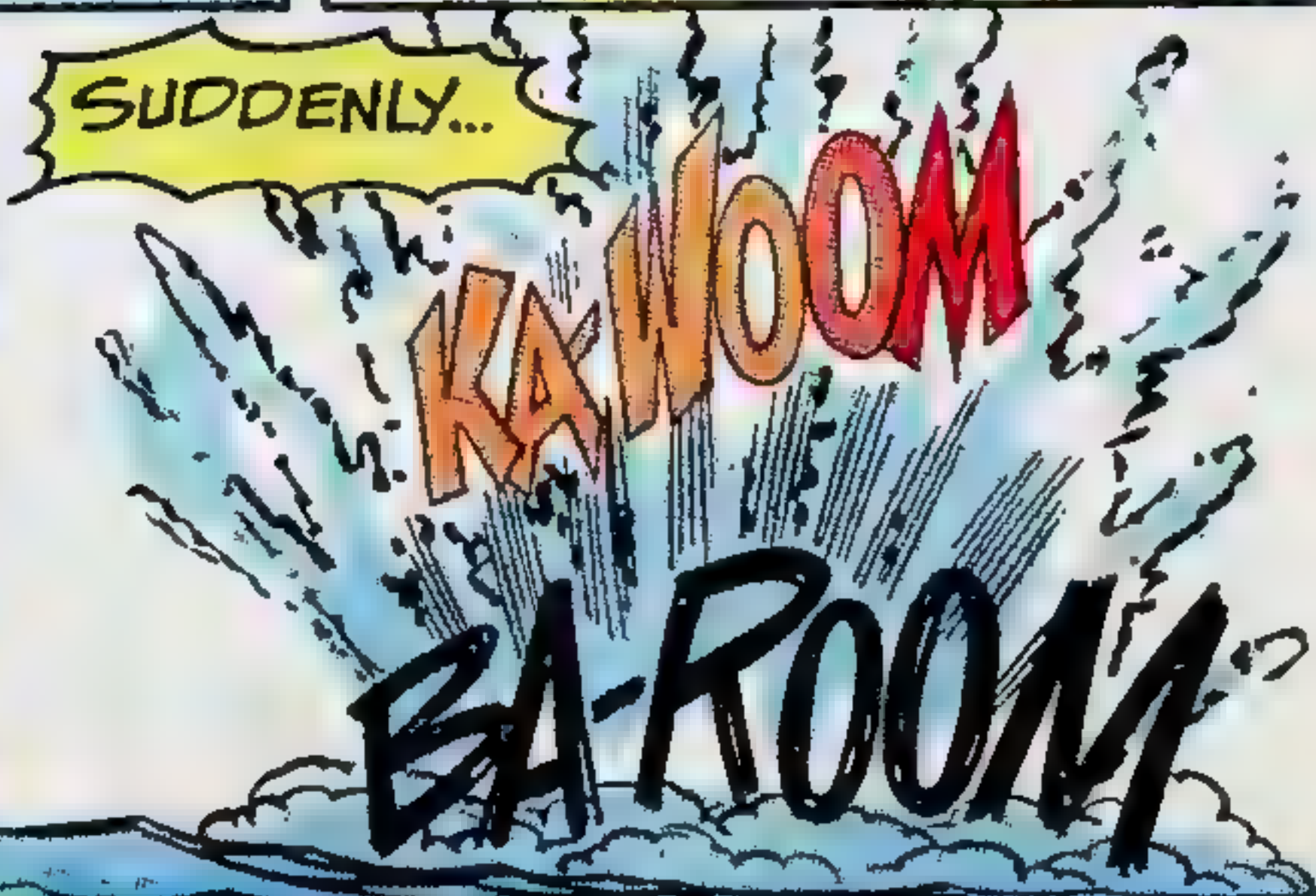
NO BUT THIS HUNTER-ROCKET WILL TRACK THEM AND LEAD US RIGHT TO THEIR HIDEOUT WITH RADIO SIGNALS!

SHORTLY, AS DRABNY STARTS BACK TO THE UNDERWATER CITY...



THERE WAS NO SIGN OF THE **CHALLENGERS** ON THE MAINLAND! SO I MIGHT AS WELL STICK HERE WITH THE OTHERS!

SUDDENLY...



AT THAT MOMENT, ON A NEARBY ISLAND...

SO THIS IS OUR ISLAND HIDEOUT, EH, M-M? NICE! WE'LL SWEAT IT OUT HERE TILL--

BA-ROOM

HEY!

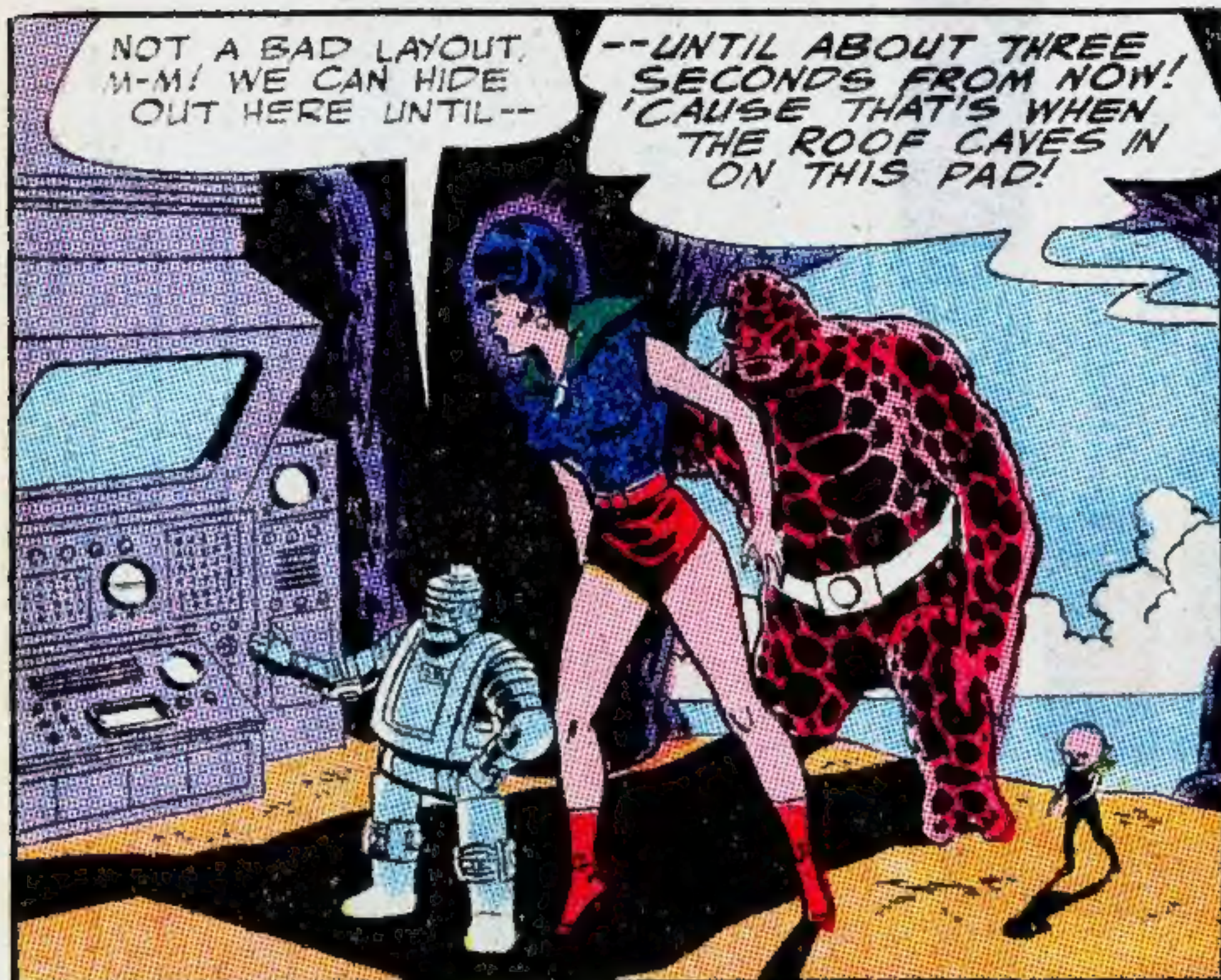
WHAT WAS THAT?

OUR UNDERWATER HEADQUARTERS-- **EXPLODING!** SINCE THE **CHALLENGERS** SAW US LEAVE THERE-- THAT CAN ONLY MEAN--



--THAT POOR DRABNY WAS BLOWN UP BY MISTAKE! WELL, THAT'S THE WAY THE PIZZA CRUMBLES!

DEAR FRIENDS-- WE'VE JUST LOST A LOYAL COMRADE! I ASK A MINUTE'S SILENCE FOR HIS EVIL SOUL!



NOT A BAD LAYOUT,
M-M! WE CAN HIDE
OUT HERE UNTIL--

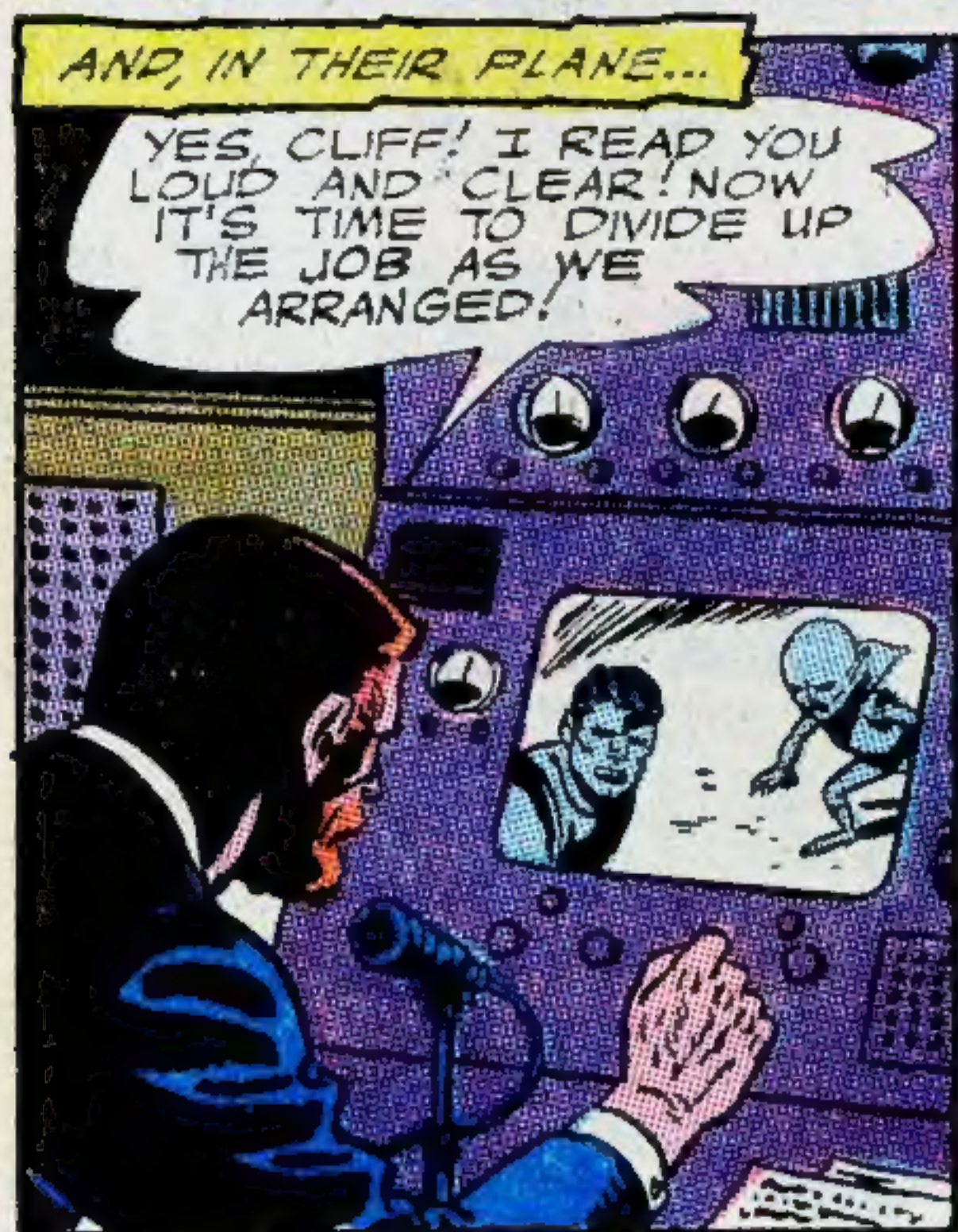
--UNTIL ABOUT THREE
SECONDS FROM NOW!
'CAUSE THAT'S WHEN
THE ROOF CAVES IN
ON THIS PAD!



WHERE'D
YOU
COME
FROM?

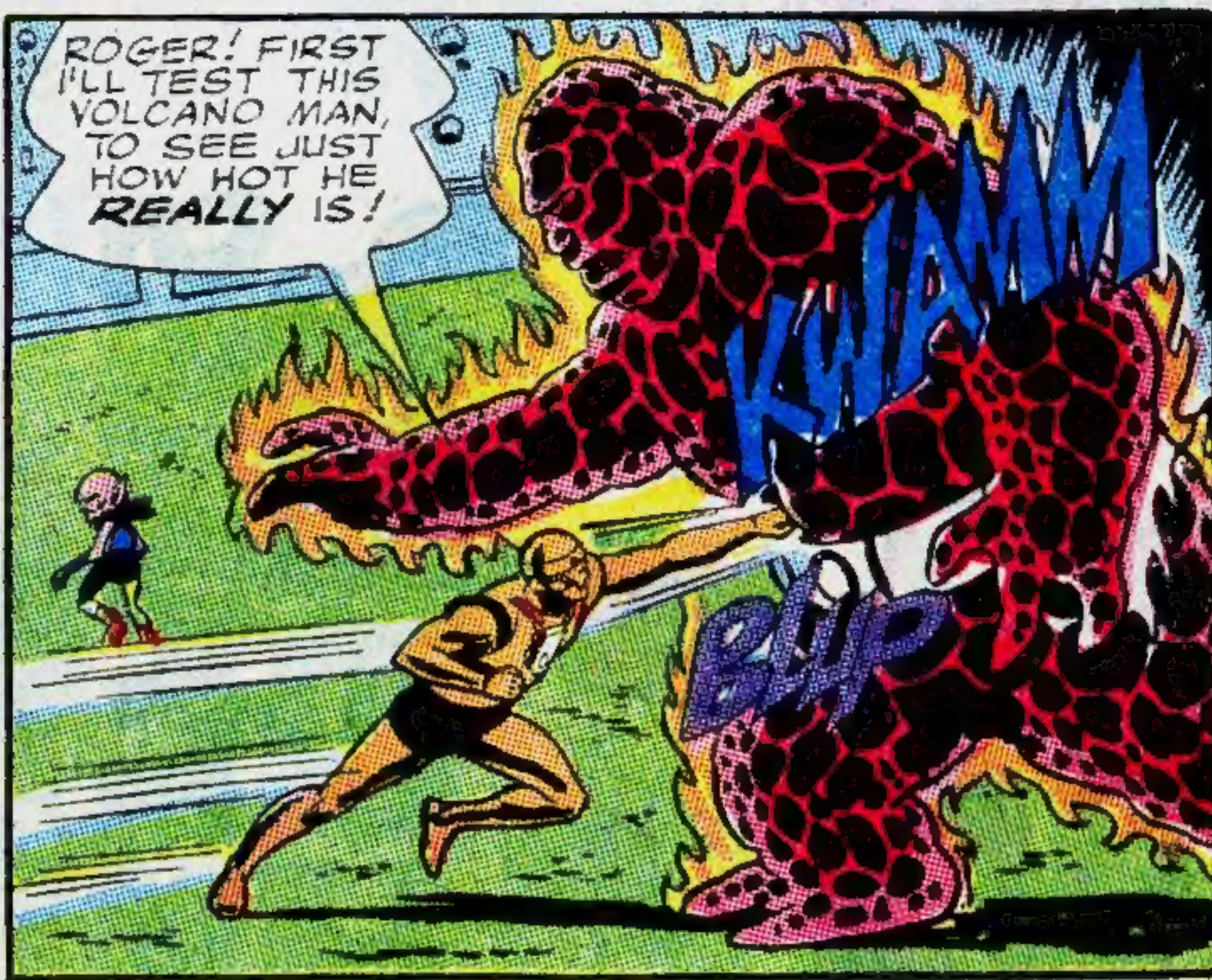
WE PARKED OUR
POGO STICK ON THE
OTHER SIDE OF
THE ISLAND! ALL
THE BETTER TO
CREEP UP ON
YOU CREEPS!

HOLD IT
ROCKY!
YOOHOO,
CHIEF? ARE
YOU GETTING
THE PICTURE
ON YOUR
VIEWER?



AND, IN THEIR PLANE...

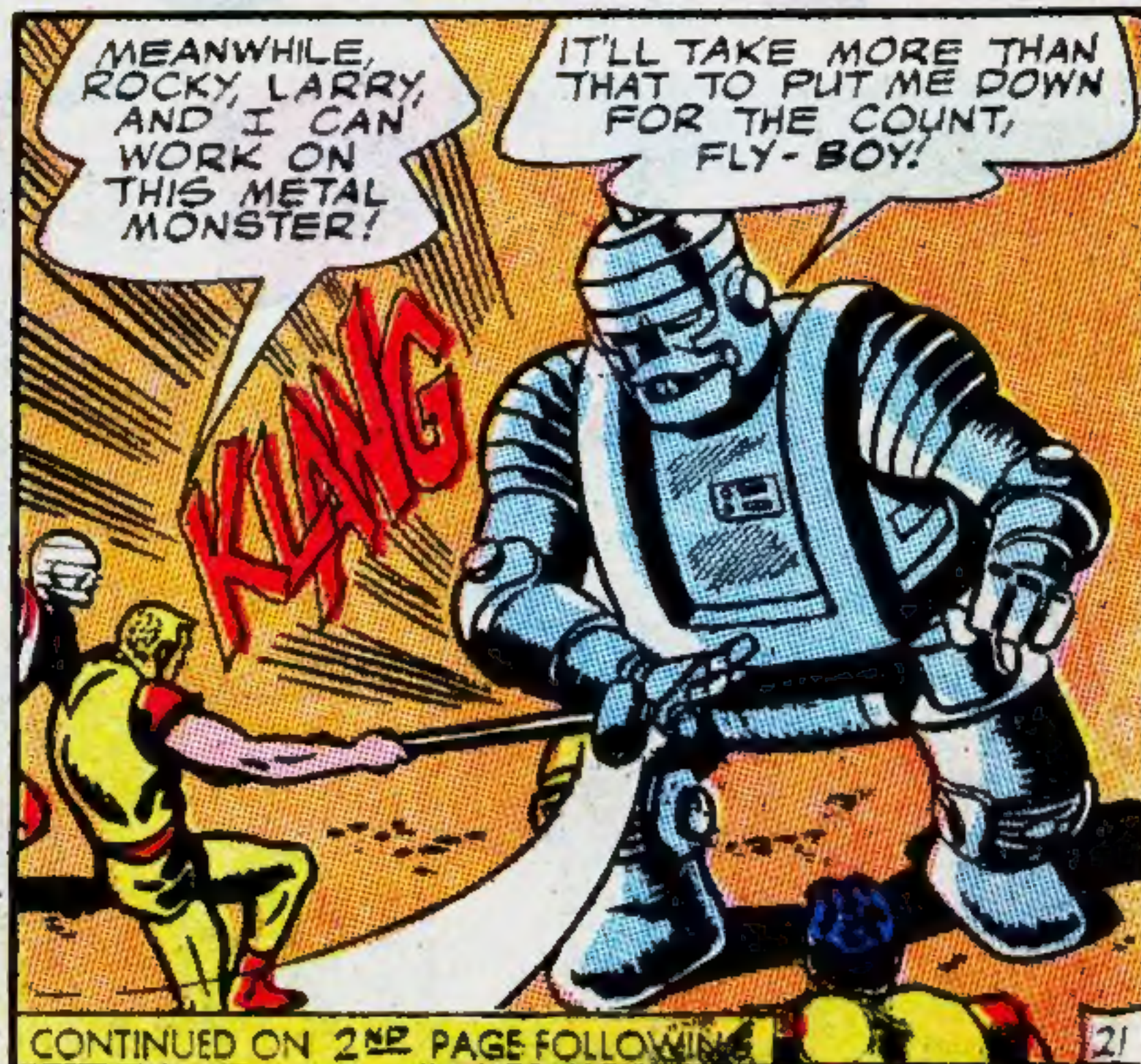
YES, CLIFF! I READ YOU
LOUD AND CLEAR! NOW
IT'S TIME TO DIVIDE UP
THE JOB AS WE
ARRANGED!



ROGER! FIRST
I'LL TEST THIS
VOLCANO MAN,
TO SEE JUST
HOW HOT HE
REALLY IS!



YEAH-- HE'S PRETTY HOT,
ALL RIGHT! BUT DON'T WORRY,
I CAN KEEP HIM BUSY--
ALONG WITH RED AND
PROF!

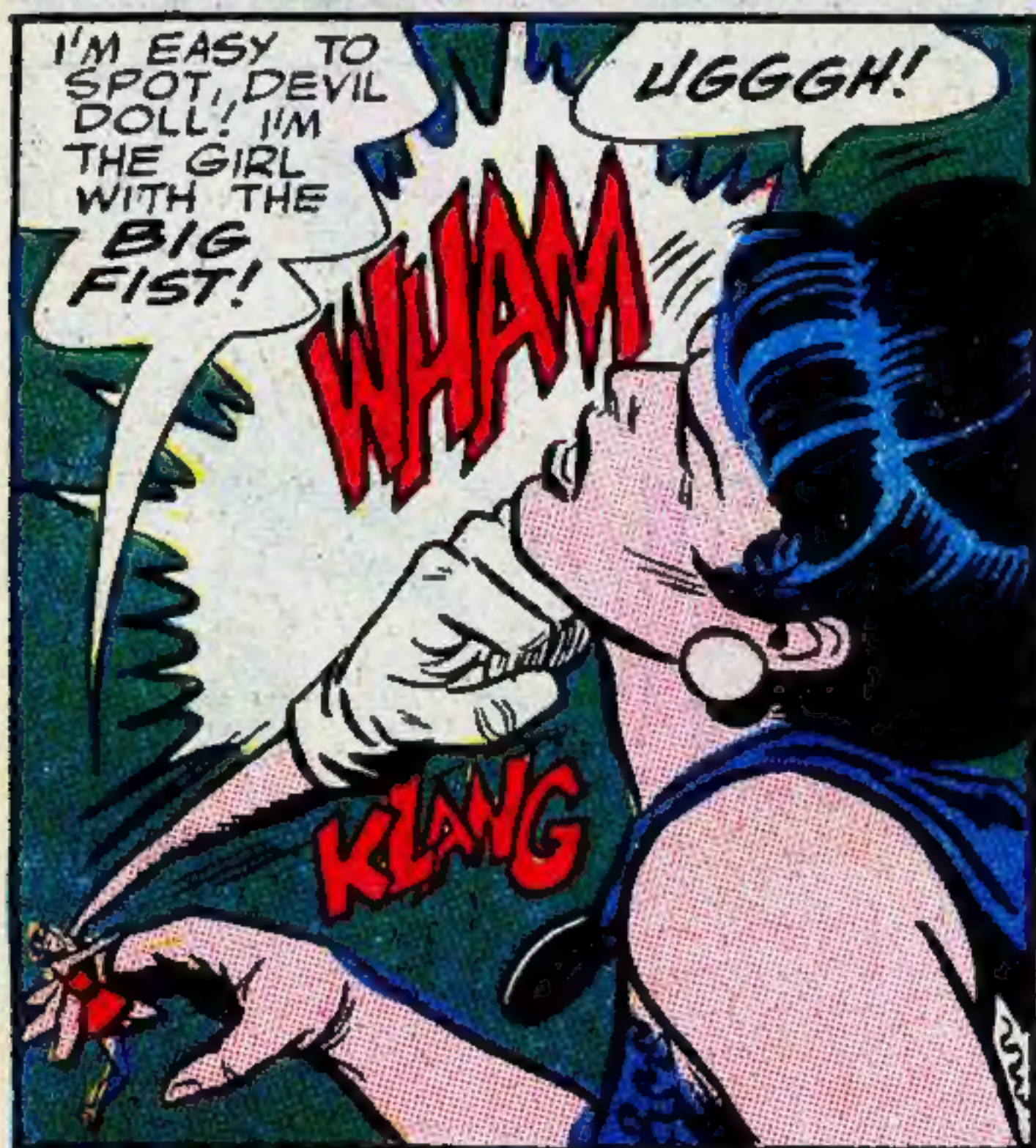


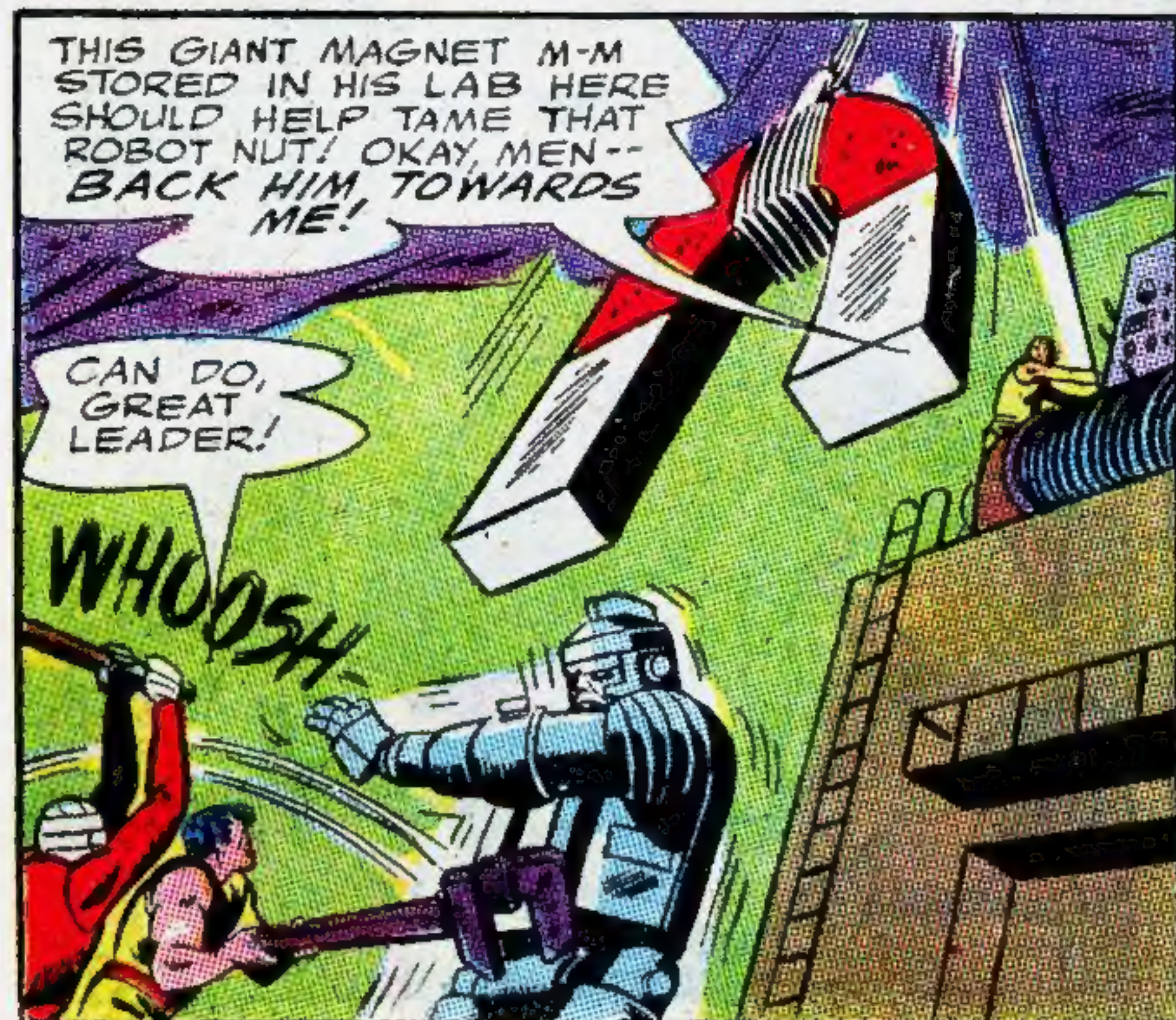
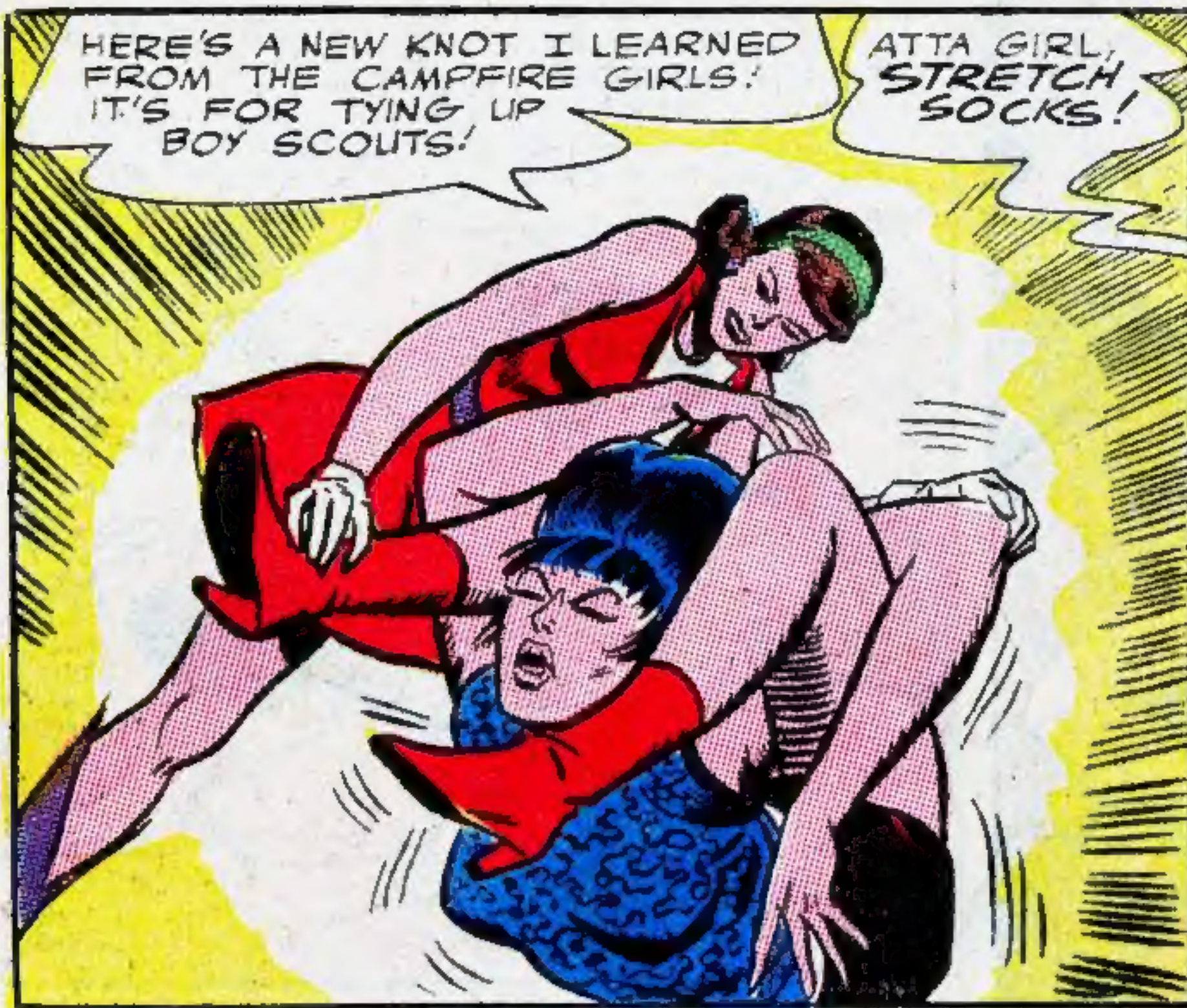
MEANWHILE,
ROCKY, LARRY,
AND I CAN
WORK ON
THIS METAL
MONSTER!

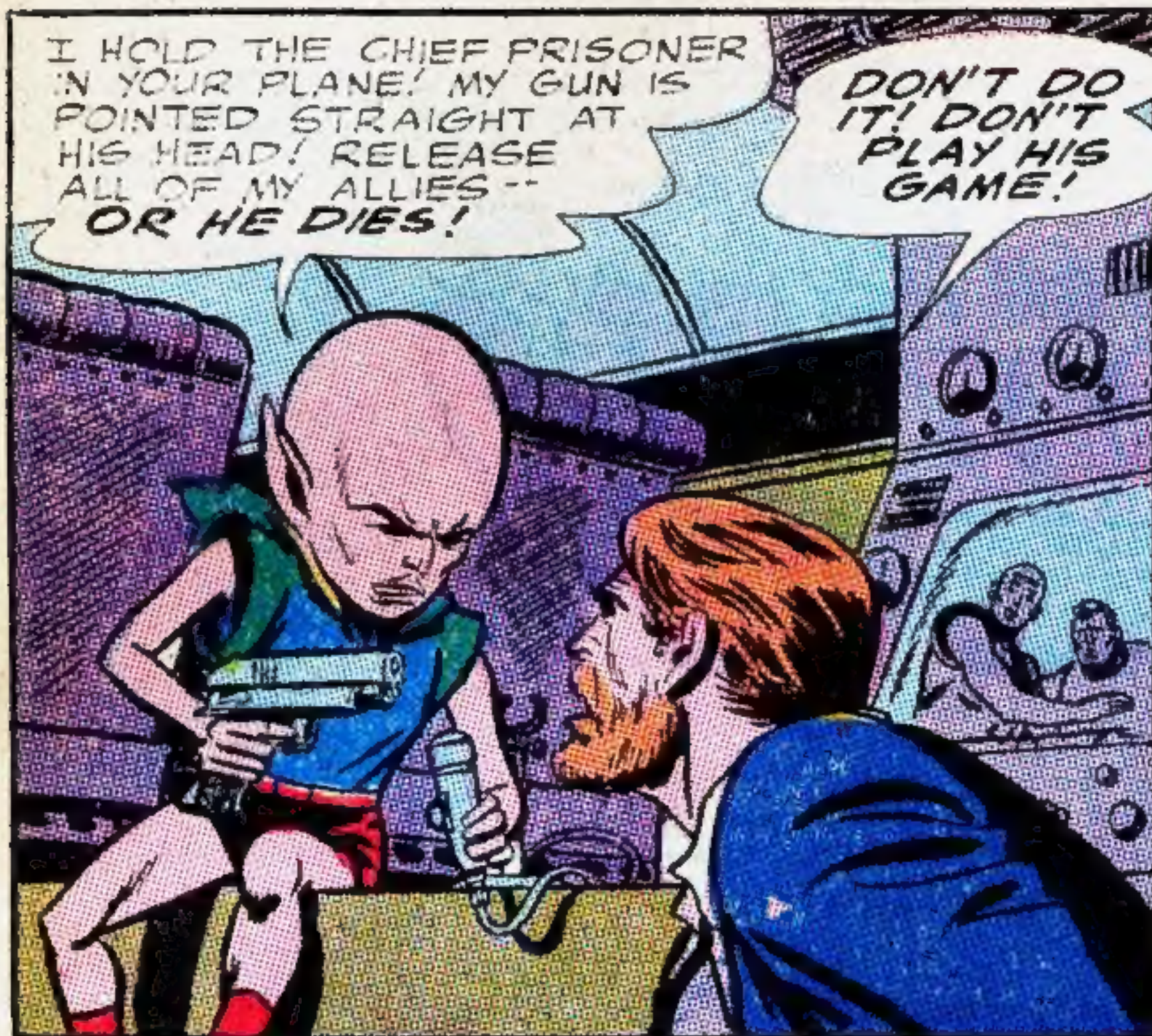
IT'LL TAKE MORE THAN
THAT TO PUT ME DOWN
FOR THE COUNT,
FLY-BOY!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

21







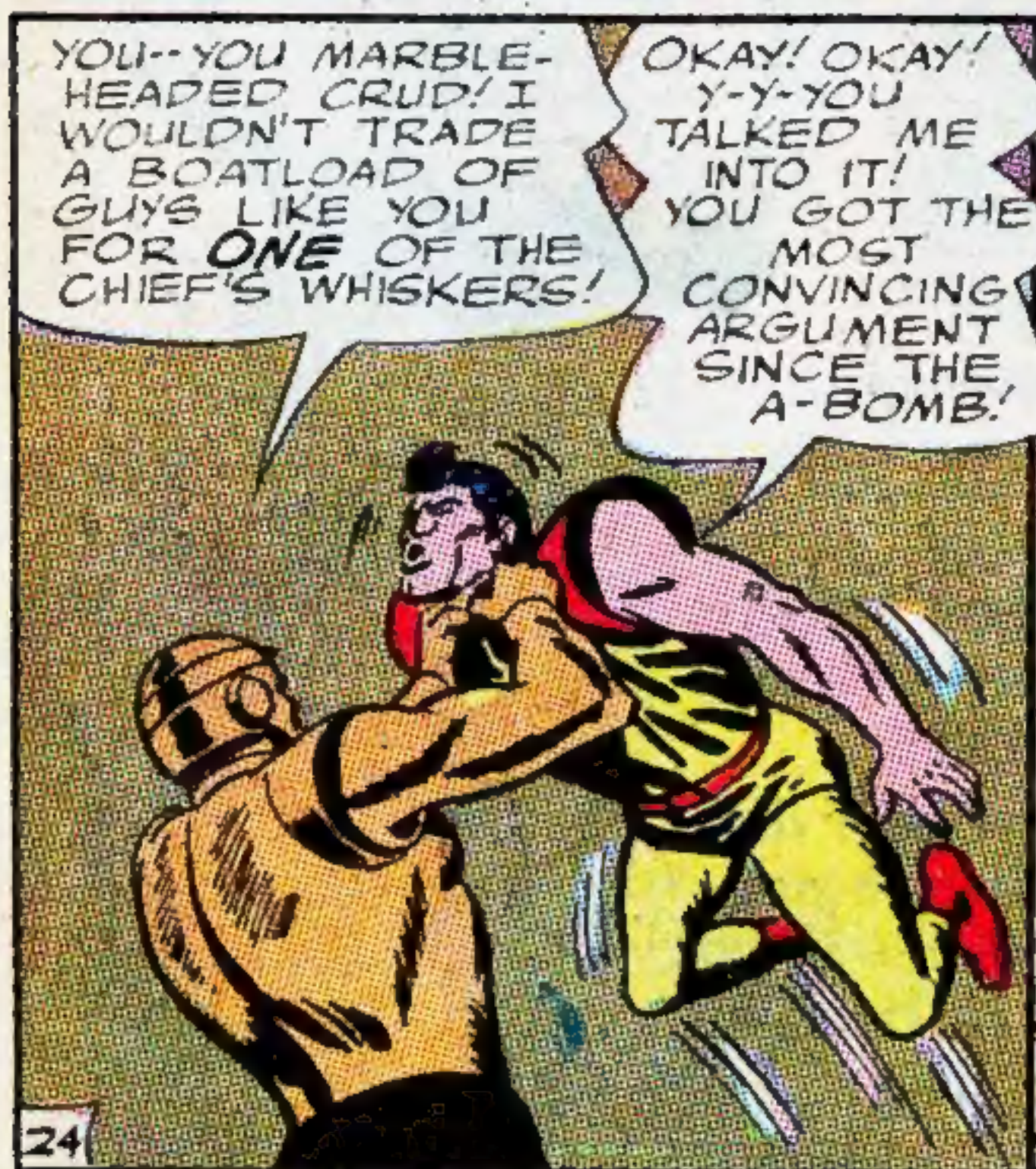
I HOLD THE CHIEF PRISONER IN YOUR PLANE! MY GUN IS POINTED STRAIGHT AT HIS HEAD! RELEASE ALL OF MY ALLIES-- OR HE DIES!

DON'T DO IT! DON'T PLAY HIS GAME!



MAN, WHAT A BIND TO BE IN! IT'D BREAK MY HEART TO LET THOSE KING-SIZED RAT FINKS GO FREE! BUT--

ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR SKULL? YOU MEAN YOU'D EVEN DEBATE SAVING THE LIFE OF THE GUY WHO BROUGHT US BACK FROM THE DEAD?



YOU--YOU MARBLE-HEADED CRUD! I WOULDN'T TRADE A BOATLOAD OF GUYS LIKE YOU FOR ONE OF THE CHIEF'S WHISKERS!

OKAY! OKAY! Y-Y-YOU TALKED ME INTO IT! YOU GOT THE MOST CONVINCING ARGUMENT SINCE THE A-BOMB!

LATER, WITH THE CHALLENGER-HATERS GONE...



IT'S MY FAULT THAT YOUR DEADLIEST ENEMIES ESCAPED US!

SKIP IT, DAD! MULTI-MAN NEVER GOT HIS BIG UNDER-WATER SCHEME GOING! SO IT FIGURES HE'LL TRY AGAIN! AND WE'LL ALL GET ANOTHER CHANCE AT THE EGG-HOOD!

AND HOW THEY WILL! ALL OF THEM TOGETHER AGAIN, THE CHALLS AND THE D.P. IN THE FINAL CHILLING CHAPTER OF THIS SIZZLING SAGA! IN THE DOOM PATROL (#102) ON SALE NEXT MONTH!



The most far-out **FIEND** of them **ALL!...**

I. KRANUS ROBOT EMPEROR

MEET THE **WILDEST, WEIRDEST** TEEN TORNADO IN COMICS HISTORY...

ME, BEAST-BOY!

IN THE THRILLING, THROAT-CLUTCHING ISSUE NOW ON SALE!

Also The Return of **ROBOTMAN-IAC!**